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INDIAN REVIEW

EDITED BY MR. G. A. NATESAN

1946

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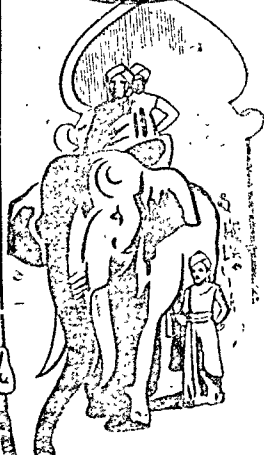
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 47]

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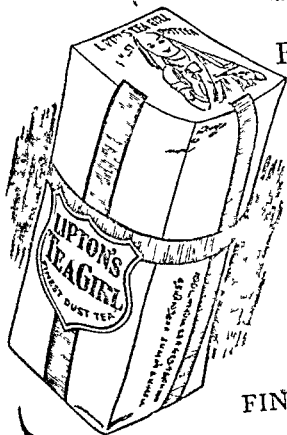
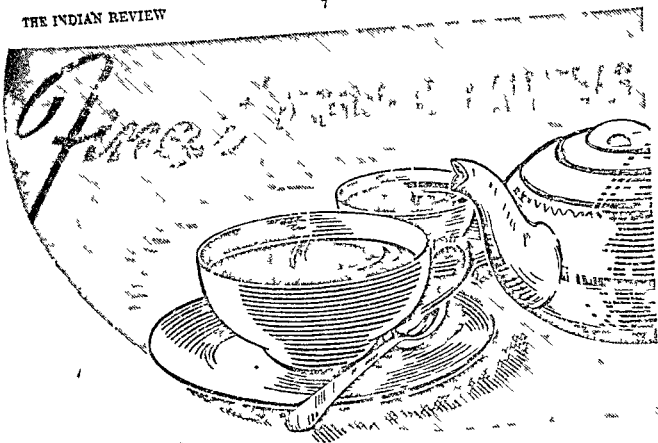
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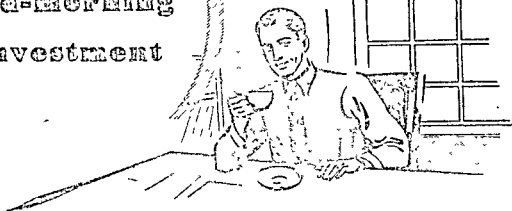


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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

[No. 1.]

JANUARY 1946

Vol. 47.]

BOOKS THAT INFLUENCED ME

BY THE RT. HON. DR. V S SRINIVASA SASTRI CH

I am not a man of one book or of a few select books. That is to say there are no favourite books to which I recur again and again for inspiration or pleasure. Even the Ramayana I do not read daily. I have read quite a lot in my time, though my taste is not so comprehensive or indiscriminate as that of many whom I know. For instance, my old friend Professor K B Ramanathan who found the day too short for his reading, was omnivorous. From him I took many tips. One of them it is interesting to recall. Of railway novels and detective fiction he was no lover. Whatever the original force a book made, he would say, "let us wait for a year and see if it maintains its vogue." I have known many persons to whom the reading of these books is like smoking or chewing, a habit that gains a hold on them and must be indulged without pause. Like our *naya* whose interruption brings unhappiness, while its performance ceases to be a lively enjoyment. Never find of them, I have now come to look upon them as a tempting sin and grudge them even an hour of my time. From boyhood, books

have been to me more than a learned interest or purveyors of useful knowledge. When they are of some real merit, I have consciously let them govern my conduct and clarify my notions of right and wrong. In a sense it is true every book makes you wiser and imperceptibly affects your sense of life's values. But I often took a good book more seriously. I would close it while in the act of reading and attempt to digest its lessons and send the new thoughts coursing round my mental frame and assimilate them to be part of my inner being. In my boyish immaturity, I remember Edgeworth's Moral Tales and Popular Tales helped my growth in this way. From Smiles's books Self Help and Character I somehow turned away by instinct. Though I could not formulate the grounds of my repugnance, I fancy their tautology and pompous preaching repelled me. At a certain age even a child wishes to eat with its own fingers and not out of the maternal spoon.

A book's influence takes many shapes. In some cases it dazzles you by sheer skill of presentation. Your admiration is roused and your fancy tickled, but no

lasting benefits seem to accrue. Take De Quincey for example. His pages are a lure, but I cannot testify that they add real profit to the mind or enhance one's power of expression. At the other end are treasures of literature which affect you profoundly, but whose influence on your attitude to life or your conduct it is difficult to trace precisely. I would place in this category the great plays of Shakespeare and moving orations like those of Burke. Who can escape the instruction of Scott's novels or the edification of George Eliot's? Wordsworth, Tennyson and Browning go deeper down in your nature and shape it to finer issues. I have felt the spell of these and other writers and should be much the poorer if by any chance I lost what they have given me. But I understand my business today is to mention the books that, above all others, have made me what I am, furnished my mind with its best material, directed my habits and modes of thought, and informed my spirit with its characteristic aims and ideals. Such sources of mental and moral inspiration can be but few, and I should find it no easy task to define exactly or evaluate what they have done for me. I trust my readers would bring their own particular experience from its intimate recesses to understand and judge mine. Their charity and their indulgence to a fellow-traveller in the jungle of life I take for granted.

A word of qualification is necessary before I begin an account of the sources from which flow the main elements of my build. Guidance to others is foreign to my purpose. I do not venture to suggest

that you should drink from the fountains where I slaked my thirst. My *amrita* may be your poison. Like theories and modes, books change from age to age, and for the nutriment of the mind it is idle to expect our children to resort to the same foods that we ate. I have often expressed wonder that the school books now in fashion differ so vastly from the ones on which we were brought up. The curricula of Universities are modified so slightly from year to year that we hardly notice the change, but within a generation they accumulate formidably and make a revolution. Both in substance and in manner the education of today differs from mine to such an extent that I marvel at the continuity that seems to bind in one whole the process by which the generations link themselves together. Is it a fact that the seminal books of the world are but a few and that in one form or in another they alone have been the firm rock on which in differing periods of history differing philosophies, differing moralities, and differing sciences have been erected? Sometimes I think Yes and sometimes No. Books for a time and books for all time—are there really two such classes? The *Iliad* and the *Ramayana* can never die, so say our idealists. The *Vedas*, we swear, had no beginning and will have no end. Grand conceptions these, which it were vandalism to examine historically or appraise scientifically. To how few of the world's population of nearly two thousand million do they mean anything? In our own homes they have long ceased to be a direct means of enlightenment, and where they are, exist only in translations,

in unconnected fragments which hide more than they reveal. If then I name a few authors who have taught me the essence of what I know and believe, I do not pretend even for a moment that you cannot find other or better guides to the world's wisdom.

Knowledge of scientific truths, though it shifts from time to time, is foundational. All other knowledge rests on it and is fortified by it. The most authoritarian of our Vedic preceptors put observation and experience above the word. Every one of us who has been to school will recall the wonders which dawned upon him in the science classes, destroying right and left many fondly cherished superstitions. When I was first introduced to science books, I grasped, with a sureness which now astonishes me as I recall it, the scientific spirit, that is the spirit of scientific inquiry which doubts and questions and shrinks from generalizing beyond the ascertained facts. Tyndall's *Lectures* opened my eyes first to the true methods of science. Another book of those early days which gave a permanent turn to my thought was a collection of T. H. Huxley's writings and speeches containing a marvellous exposition of Man's Place in Nature. Harder food followed in a few years from the same source. Few people will remember now that the English Men of Letters series includes a volume on Hume from the pen of Huxley. Hume's life is dismissed in a brief chapter and the rest of the book is a gripping exposition of his philosophy. It was a pity I had not learned at college the elements of metaphysics and I would go so far as to

say that liberal education is defective without an analysis of the workings of the human mind. As I applied my untutored mind to the doctrines under examination, I remember the slowness of my progress, and the despair that often crushed me. But I had intellectual pride and a firm belief that perseverance can conquer mountains. So I used to take the volume, repair to a corner free from disturbance, con the sentences again and again read before and after, and to my good luck experience those thrills of joy which attend mental conquests, and which, whether at the moment or in retrospect, transcend all other human pleasure. My progress was necessarily interrupted and uncertain. In the end, however, by dint of hard reflection and meditation, I mastered the book, and the gain to my knowledge and power of consecutive thought was incalculable. Several years later Huxley's *Evolution and Ethics* added a concluding chapter to this aspect of my education. Written in his most mature and attractive style, it seems to supply a corrective to his original teachings but, properly studied, it is only a supplement thereto. From the purely literary point of view, it is a masterpiece which I would commend to my younger readers. To this category belong Herbert Spencer's *Sociology* and John Stuart Mill's *Subjection of Women*, *On Liberty*, and *Three Essays on Natural Religion*. I have not freshened up my memory for the occasion. The impressions now recorded are those left on my mind when I last read them. It would obviously be inappropriate to ascribe past preferences

to present feelings. Spencer overwhelmed me by the wealth of material on any point gathered from all departments of human interest, and the touch of emotion that here and there warmed the treatment of his subject. Mill struck me as more economical and selective in the use of words and perhaps not so copious of illustration. Reference to contemporaries and their modes of thought, was dispassionate and absolutely fair. The aim, one could see, was a genuine quest for the truth and not the establishment of favoured or partisan views. It was a rare adventure to me—of exploration and discovery in a fascinating sphere of speculation, all aglow with the excitement of a novice without a trace of prepossession. Recapture of my wonderment is not possible. All I can now recall is, that I was journeying in a region of captivating ideas, at the same time subtle and precise, imponderable and well-defined. To the extent that I am exact in thought and lucid in its presentation, and that my management of a topic is just, comprehensive and helpful to the reader, I owe the virtues to the influence of these mighty teachers.

The foundations of my moral and spiritual nature were laid by a large number of books, of which I will select three for the depth and pervasiveness of their teaching. The *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius* stirred me deeply by their utter sincerity and high-souled philanthropy. Curious as it may seem, Tolstoy took me captive by his *The Kingdom of God is within You*. I remember how the revelation came on me with a rush. Much that I have read since in English and Sanskrit is fully on a

level with it, but the way it carried the citadel of my heart is an abiding memory, which I would not lose for the world. *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* gave a vision, as bright as it was clear, of a problem that had long been vexing me, and for the first time in my experience, set the position of women in correct perspective. Hardy, I have no doubt, meant to startle a convention-ridden and heartless world to a consciousness of the essence of chastity by his sub-title "*The Story of a Pure Woman*". It is audacious, but he makes it out to be just and proper. The taint is inflicted on Tess while she is hardly aware of what is happening and, the sinister consequence following, she has to pay the severest penalty that is exacted of her sex. Society is no doubt heartless in such cases, but Hardy makes society almost fiendish in its persecution of poor Tess. The victim of a cruel wrong, her subsequent life of high purpose and good deeds does not avail her, and at the end disaster, black and utter disaster, overtakes her until it seems to the reader that Tragedy herself must be horrified. Our Ahalya, who is in a way suggested to our thoughts by the story of Tess, escapes lightly in comparison, though her sin was committed consciously for the rapture of it. If we reduced the Ramayana scale to human proportions, her penance cleansed her soon enough, and it needed only Rama's touch to restore the unsullied charm that Brahma had given her at birth. Hindu society has treated her with divine indulgence. She is placed first among the five good women whose names have only to be remembered once a day to rid us of our grossest sins. Only one of these, Mandodari

as a perfectly white record Sita had a whisper against her, however unjust. Draupadi had more husbands than one. The last one Tara, if she is the wife of Bholaspati, was unfaithful; if she is the Rama Krishna heroine, changed her husband three times. To say the least, this is a perplexing galaxy of good women. Yet I am persuaded that it is indicative of a highly tolerant and understanding attitude towards woman, which dates back to a very early period in our story. How time and custom have hardened our hearts today! We have forgotten the natural standards of the early time and become the slaves of false ideals utterly inconsistent with our nature as human beings. The springs of character would be purified, conduct would be regulated justly, and life would be happy all round, if the relations between men and women could be based on mutual forbearance and understanding as in olden times, and forgiveness and tolerance were regarded as excellences not only in wives but equally in husbands.

Society is judged from several angles in Les Miserables. No doubt individuals make society and contribute to its shifting phases in different ways. But at any given moment of our present state of evolution the pressure upon us of law, custom, economic conditions, hygienic environments and other like factors is such that from the cradle to the grave it is only in a very limited degree that we are the architects of our own fortune, and may be held responsible for what we are and what we do. Saints and criminals alike arise out of the soil and atmosphere. Properly understood, this truth ought to have overpowering influence

on our judgement and make us members, one of another to a degree that we hardly dream of. Jean Valjean brings this lesson home in the most forceful and convincing manner. The story is one of the great epics of the world, the events and characters alike are cast in large moulds, and the sensitive reader is instructed, edified, scolded, exhorted and by every possible means shaped to be fit for a happier world than he now knows. Out of this vast storehouse of experience and history we carry away just so much wisdom as we are capable of. But there is no one, however exalted in station, however wise, however powerful, who can leave a study of this book without being summoned with the compelling majesty of supernatural law to the recognition of a more humane code of behaviour and a more altruistic sense of duty. If any of my readers has not yet read this book, I bid him, with the authority that belongs to age and knowledge of the deeps and shoals of life, to get hold of a copy at once and benefit to the full by the treasures that its pages enshrine.

One immortal product of the human mind I have kept to the end. The Ramayana, I hold to be almost without a rival in the world's literature. Whether we judge by the grandeur of the theme, by the variety of characters portrayed, by the tone of its idealism, or by the appeal that it makes to the devout heart, it ranks amongst the noblest monuments of the poetic genius. To those who cannot read it in the original, I would unhesitatingly recommend resort to translations. Even through media the narrative shines with rich brilliance. The wise say that if you cannot scale the

sanctity of his word once given and swore he would abandon her, Lakshmana and life itself before abandoning a promise. These high protestations were put to the test ere long. Not indeed in an attempt to maintain his fidelity to a solemn undertaking. For dharma, inexorable dharma came to him in diverse forms. His personal honour and the purity of the Ikshvaku race were inextricably mixed and no sacrifice was too great to preserve it. Twice when his queen's name was called in question, he threw her to the wolves. Then Lakshmana's life lay forfeit when he left his post of duty under the cruel compulsion of circumstances. Vasishtha had to intercede to get the penalty

commuted into banishment. The immolations ordered by Rama were at first loudly protested against, but as the iron strength of his will became known, people submitted as to the decrees of blind fate. This is eloquent testimony not only to the sempiternal validity of the ideals that he enforced, but to the mighty ascendancy that he established over the hearts of those that came under his influence. The author who conceived and delineated the character of Rama in such convincing detail as we have in the *Ramayana* is a supreme genius. Poet, prophet or seer has seldom presented to the mind of man so noble an apotheosis of duty.

Adwaita as the Culmination of Mathematics

BY SIR S V RAMAMURTI, KCIE, CIE, ICS

—(o)—

ARITHMETIC is the basis of mathematics. The unit one is the basis of arithmetic. The unity of the perceiver is the basis of the unit one.

What is one of anything? It is as much as the consciousness of the perceiver recognises as adequate to present a quality. We see mangoes. As the quality of the mango grows out of the egeneric quality of fruit, it is the perceiver that stamps himself on the quality of fruit and makes one mango after another. He calls out one, as he stamps out one mango.

The unit is, thus the stamping of the universal by the individual. There are three levels, where this equation between the individual and the universal is made

At the level of matter, the Universe is reduced to equal and undistinguishable atoms of smaller and smaller dimensions, of fewer and fewer categories. The atoms of matter gave place to electrons and protons and a few others of the same kind. At the level of mind, the Universe is reduced to equal units, each represented by the number one. There are various types of numbers integral and fractional, rational and irrational, algebraic and transcendental. At the bottom of all these is the number one. It represents an atom of mind. Back of the atoms of matter and of mind is the one die of the Spirit. It is one without a second. With this die, the perceiver marks out the

perceived universe and number and atomocity emerge at the levels of mind and matter. The atoms of matter are divided. The atoms of mind are both united and divided. In spirit, there is no division. Nor is there union, for spirit is one without a second.

Mind exposes itself in thoughts. Matter exhibits itself in things. Neither thoughts nor things are indeed primal. They are different aspects of reality, yielded by analysis. Science and philosophy have been popularly differentiated as studies of quantity and quality. There is need to perceive the common basis of quantity and quality. Long ago when I tried to reconcile the oneness of Indian philosophy with the manyness of science, I found light in a sentence of Bergson that "quantity is incipient quality". Conversely we may say that quality is a range of quantity. A range of frequencies yields the quality of colour. Another range of frequencies yields us the quality of sound. Perhaps with greater knowledge, we could find the ranges of number which yield us the qualities associated with the other senses. Ranges of quantity having yielded quality, the summation of all quality is the One, that is the supreme class of classes. Conversely, the unity of the universe is the die that marks off the units of the universe.

Mathematics is not merely the texture of the thought of man but also of the

being of matter. Nature rarely makes mistakes in arithmetic in her creation. Cotton may be defined by the chromosome number 12. The succession of chromosome numbers at different levels seems to yield the hierarchy of life—plants and animals, mosquitoes and men. Agro-biology yields equations valid for many crops, in many countries, under widely varying conditions. Mathematics is thus not merely an emanation from the mind. Equally it is an emanation from matter. Should not mathematics be then also an emanation from spirit from which both mind and matter emerge? In India, mathematics like other forms of thought has flowed from spiritual intuition. In the school of Relativists to which Eddington and Jeans belong, we see a reverse flow from mathematics to mysticism.

Matter, mind and spirit—these are the fundamental entities of the universe. Pure mathematics is the self-analysis of mind. Applied mathematics is the analysis of matter by mind. It is the basis of the science. What is the mathematics of the relation of mind and spirit?

Mathematics is both analysis and synthesis. Mathematics deals with both the unfolding and refolding of self, with the passage of Brahman to Atman and back to Brahman. Mathematics yields not merely a static vision but also a dynamic vision. Advaita is thus not only the culmination of mathematics. It is too the foundation of mathematics.



THE FUNCTION OF MUSEUMS IN THE MASS EDUCATION OF INDIA

BY DR GILBERT J FOWLER, D SC, FRIC, FR SAN I, FNI

MANY years ago I had occasion to give some evening lectures in Metallurgy of a semi popular character to an audience of practical men, most of whom carried on small foundries and other local industries involving a knowledge of the properties and working of the more common metals. Naturally in dealing with foundry work the behaviour of metals on cooling had to be considered and I was rather proud of a fine specimen of crystallised steel which had been given me as a museum piece by a works manager in Middlesborough, the specimen having been recovered from an unexpectedly large mass of molten metal cooling abnormally slowly. It naturally served as an excellent lecture illustration of the various characteristic forms which might occur under different foundry conditions and more generally to the whole subject of crystals and crystallisation.

One of my audience was a specialist since his business was concerned chiefly with making shapes for hat makers. This good man was much interested and we became quite friendly so that he asked me to come and have tea with him and to see his foundry. He was a well to do man in a simple way and I came in for an excellent Lancashire "high tea" after we had inspected his foundry. Talking over the subject of my lecture he seemed to me unaccountably at a loss in describing the specimen of crystallized steel which I had shown the class and I then discovered that the word "crystal" was quite unfamiliar

to him. He was thus unable quickly to put into words some of the foundry problems which he wished to discuss with me. Yet he was obviously an intelligent and successful practical foundry expert and a man of business. He was just unfamiliar with a word. I on the other hand might well have been ignorant of a word well understood by steel melters, viz. what is known as the "nature" of the fractured surface of a test piece.

The incident would seem to indicate the difference between what may be termed "natural" and "academic" education.

Here, surely, is the place of the museum in education. By well chosen exhibits interest is awakened through the eye and afterwards the spoken and later still the written word can be assimilated. This is, after all the experience of most of us. To expect to learn about the insides of one's first motor car by reading a handbook is generally vain. Only after visual examination of the actual car and more particularly after some tribulation and a baptism of oil received while crouching in the garage pit, does real comprehension begin.

In the light of the foregoing it has seemed to me that before the elementary school with its slate and blackboard must come the museum and the actual making visible of the words later to be used.

The museum I have in mind is the museum for Mass education designed mainly for the actually illiterate or those just entering upon the literary path. That by

no means implies the unintelligent, but only the ill informed. How many villagers have e.g. ever seen the sea? How many have seen a large town? How many realize that the world is a globe and that it goes round that sun? Where do they think are England and America?

It is indeed generally the recognised objective of the worker in "village uplift" to provide the village with the cultural opportunities of the town and so stem the "drift" to the towns with its consequent loss of vitality to the nation.

The experience both of Germany and of Russia would lend encouragement to the view that the museum by the appeal to the eye is the best agent to awaken the villager, who in India is the *ryot*, to his real place and power in the community, to awaken him to a true self respect.

But art and science soon would fade
And commerce dead would fall
If the *ryot* ceased to reap and sow
For the *ryot* feeds them all.

In Russia the orthodox religion has been barred, not without reason, as "dope for the masses." I have only read of the Russian itinerant museum in the writings of *Bernard Pares*, *Julian Huxley* and others and in modern Russian fiction, but it is evident it may well play a very important part in the marvellous cultural drive of which the world is well aware. Its exhibits will no doubt be concerned with the future rather than with the past.

In Germany too from my personal knowledge the future held a prominent place in museum exhibits, but in the days when I visited the Hygiene exhibition in Dresden, later converted into a means of mass instruction, the future there appealed

to was the expectation of war and all the exhibits were arranged to show their effect on the number of men available for the army of the Fatherland. The result of this obsession is now manifest.

For the Indian instructional museum, then, we must look, it is true, to the future, but to the future of which Ruskin spoke, when it should be considered as much a victory "to get a barren field sown as to get an eared field stripped."

Even the old fashioned Museum with its ancient stones and fossil bones still awakens some kind of curious interest in the family party out for a holiday or why should troops of women and children visit the chemical and biochemical laboratories of the Indian Institute of Science, as they used to do, it must be confessed to the irritation of the professor in charge, if the sight of unaccustomed and mysterious things should not itself be an entertainment and an awakening apart from any understanding of their true significance?

To the student of history and antiquities and of indigenous art such a museum as the one in Baroda, of which a careful description has recently been published, will find occupation for many hours of study. To the advanced university or specialist worker such a museum may be of the greatest benefit. I remember well how the excellent geological section in the University Museum in Manchester made my study of geology something much more than a mere book cramming preparation for the examination, but was rather a living objectification of the entertaining lectures of *Boyd Dawkins*. Here were examples of the actual bones of the animals and weird

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creatures mentioned in his discourses, all set out moreover in due order of their appearance in time.

The museum under present discussion is to reach those to whom even the conception of time is only dimly attained. Last year's harvest perhaps or with the children last year's festival may remain, but what is Akbar to him or he to Akbar? Does he even know the name of the present Viceroy?

What he needs to know is what many of us learnt in our childhood years. Somehow or other we came to know that we could float paper boats in the bath, that even a big heavy kite would fly in the air, that cats were quite different in their ways from dogs. Some of us in our very early years may have seen and wondered at the sea. Even it may be, have had early glimpses of countries other than the one which became our home, and have wondered, as one small child did, whether it was the same moon over England that he had seen in the night sky of France. All these and many other items of knowledge came without conscious effort by reason that we lived on an island not far away from different countries and people. We lived in towns and saw the shops and all the manifold contents full as they were of infinite avenues of knowledge. Then there were the docks and the ships. "Where are you going to all you big steamers"?

How are we to bring all these flashlights on knowledge to the ryot in the village? Clearly they must be brought to him for how can he be expected to travel hundreds of miles before he can see even the countless things which come naturally within

the knowledge of a British child or even a street urchin in a coastal town in India? How are we to bring the world to the village if we cannot bring the village to the world?

Thinking these things over, it would seem that first of all in our museum for mass education we must have a good sized *globe* so set up that it can be viewed from every quarter and may be turned about and rotated for ease of observation. Then there should be paintings and coloured photographs of the sea and of ships and "big steamers"

Pictures there must be showing typical scenes from the various countries of the world, their people and their activities, such as thousands of Indian soldiers will be describing to their friends and families in the village. Long ago in England there used to be panoramas which set out on a slowly moving great curtain travel pictures from all over the world. Now of course there is the cinema and educational tours for the children. It is stated that both in Russia and indeed in India the tours have been found too time-consuming, quite apart from the expense. Of greater importance would seem to be the need for easy access to the museum at all times of the day just like an ordinary museum or art gallery in a city or town.

Illiteracy introduces the difficulty of the impossibility of descriptive labels. Clearly descriptions must be vocal by fairly loudspeaking dictaphones or gramophone records. These might be arranged in little peepshows on the penny in the slot principle although capable of being operated without charge.

There will need to be a well qualified and enthusiastic guide to the exhibits, to be appealed to when any difficulty arises or explanation is needed, or to give formal expositions at stated hours.

The next step to the knowledge of the world will be the elementary further details which lead to some knowledge of the *why* as well as the *how*. Where do the sun and moon go to when they leave the sky? Why does the wind blow? Where do the clouds come from? Why do some things burn and others not? What is the wind made of? And many other such questions which accompany the early awakening of the scientific attitude of mind—the substitution of superstition by understanding. Some of us learnt these things from admirably written children's elementary booklets of sciences. Chief among these was the "Child's Guide to Knowledge" the first question being who made the World? and the answer was "The great and good God," thus starting on a note common to all religions.

Many pages of questions followed comprising all items of information which should be common to the equipment of every good citizen such as "What is bread made of?" "What is coal and where does it come from?" (Think of the different signification of a piece of coal to an Indian villager and a qualified modern chemist!) Followed questions about the origin and production of things daily met with—sugar, cotton, coffee, salt, wool, sealing wax, to mention a few that come quickly to mind. It was in fact a child's technical encyclopædia and from actual experience it can be testified to be more fascinating than an old

fashioned fairy tale. Is not indeed the fairy tale of science if properly related more worthy of attention than at any rate some of the cruder fantasies of the nursery writers, just as the history of real saints and heroes is better than legends of doubtful authority.

In our museum the Child's Guide would be expanded by models and pictures.

A further stage in education would be represented by the subjects handled in such works as Huxley's and Gregoy's Physiography which comprises maps and map-readings, springs and rivers, composition of the atmosphere, temperature and pressure of the air and from these will naturally follow simple mechanisms such as pumps and windmills and steam boilers illustrated were possible by working models.

Finally perhaps will come village and town sanitation and the relation between them and the national well being depending as it does on good food and pure and ample water.

To summarise therefore such a museum if properly and *energetically* controlled and operated would enable any willing even if illiterate visitor to assimilate much of the natural education which is the privilege of the western educated literate child. Granted that it would need the enthusiasm of the Russian social workers if the staff and instruction is to be forthcoming. Whether this will equal the enthusiasm of facile political slogans remains to be seen.

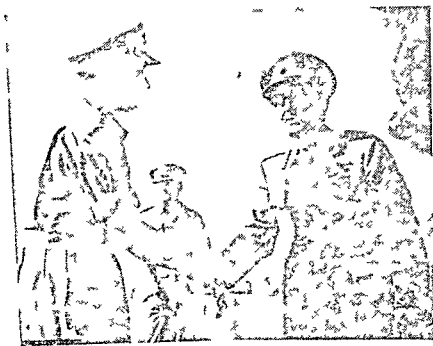
Further it is likely that the first question to be asked by "the powers that be" is what will all these museums cost? and the answer naturally will depend on how many it is proposed to instal and equip?

As a first approximation it may perhaps be assumed that a museum would be appreciated at any centre where it has been found practicable to inaugurate a system of compost making from the municipal refuse and to train the necessary staff. Already itinerant cinemas are in operation in connection with the organisation for instruction in compost making superintended by Dr C N Acharya, Chief Biochemist and which already comprises more than 400 centres.

In the U.S.A. in addition to travelling cinemas the outlying farms eagerly await the travelling libraries which supply to the

literate the equivalent of the visual message of the museums.

The real cost will necessarily depend on how much of the equipment can be supplied in India. Having regard to the technical ability available in the cinema and illustrated journalistic world and the instrument makers who would be available for model making there need be no requisition for overseas supply and so the museums would really be *costless* the money tokens involved being supplied by Government and merely circulating in the country. Men and materials are the capital required.



F M Lord Alanbrooke Chief of Imperial Gen Staff and
Lord Louis Mountbatten Supreme Allied Commander S E A C

HIS MAJESTY'S OPPOSITION

BY MR. R. J. VENKATESWARAN

THE term 'His Majesty's Opposition' was first used in just. To day, however, it has become a regular and essential part of the British constitution. Every general election produces not only a government but also an opposition. The opposition is His Majesty's alternative government. The government members sit on the front bench to the right of the Speaker and the leaders of the opposition sit on the front bench to his left. A slight change in voting in the next general election, however, will be sufficient to make government and opposition change places.

The chief function of the opposition is to criticise the government. In totalitarian states, all opposition is crushed and it is impossible for the citizens to see "the other side of the question". Democracy, however, depends on the foundation of public opinion and the opposition plays a very important part in educating the public in political principles. The criticisms levelled against the government by the opposition are generally the criticisms of *ordinary individuals*, and the answers of the government are really replies to the questions raised by the man in the street. The debate in the legislatures are conducted in public so that the citizens might be kept informed of the activities of their representatives. Secret sessions have no place in a democracy though, however, in extraordinary circumstances secrecy may be justified.

The opposition should discharge its duty with a high sense of responsibility. The

dictum that the task of the opposition is to oppose should not be quite literally understood and acted upon, for the working of government would be very difficult if the opposition always opposes the government and *never co-operates even on non-controversial issues of public importance and benefit*. The purpose of the opposition is to offer constructive criticism and not to obstruct the government. There are, however, occasions when obstruction may be quite justified. The members of the Irish Nationalist Party, for instance, could be hardly blamed if they deliberately adopted obstructionist tactics in order to wreck the Act of Union. Again, when a government attempt to rush through any measure against popular will, the opposition will be quite justified in demanding that it may be submitted to the people. It is however rather difficult to interpret this principle, because both the government and the opposition will interpret the popular opinion in their own way. For instance, the Conservatives obstructed the Parliament Bill and the Home Rule Bill in 1912. The Liberal Government was able to have a majority after 1910 only with Labour and Irish support. So the Conservatives maintained that the Liberals had no mandate for either because the Irish voted for the Parliament Bill to secure Home Rule and Great Britain had produced a majority against both.

But in normal times the opposition should offer its full co-operation to the government. The Government also should always be prepared to give a respectful

hearing to the views of the opposition and profit by them. The leader of the opposition in England is even paid a regular salary from the funds of the State to enable him to discharge his duty without the distraction of earning a living.

The House of Commons has adopted a number of devices in order to check the obstructionist tactics of recalcitrant minorities. As early as 1604, a rule was framed under which a motion that "the previous question be now put", if carried, caused a vote on the main question to be taken forthwith. But later on, the "previous question" rule was found inadequate, and so a number of special regulations were introduced which pass under the general name of closure.

There are three forms of closure, namely, the simple closure, the guillotine (or closure by compartments) and the Kangaroo. The simple closure rule says that after a question has been proposed any member may move that the question be now put and it will be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate provided the Chair is satisfied that such a motion does not infringe the rights of the minorities. Thus discussion may be cut off at any time—even while a member is speaking—and a vote precipitated. It is however laid down that at least hundred members should vote in favour of such a motion.

In 1893, the House of Commons introduced a new procedure for closure known as the guillotine, under which the House agreed in advance upon an allotment of time to the various parts of the

measure, debate on each part being terminated when the applied time arrived and a vote thereupon taken on that part.

The third form of closure, nicknamed kangaroo, empowers the Speaker to select only those amendments which appear to raise the essential issues.

The application of these forms of closure imposes heavy responsibilities on the presiding officer, and it is interesting to observe that the Speaker of the House of Commons has generally discharged his delicate duties without any party bias and has become a synonym for dignity and impartiality.

NEW YEAR, 1946

By IAN HOYLE, S J



Though here and there a stroke may have
cloven

Asunder the warp of the fading year,
May the oncoming year be untrivenly woven
With the joy of all we hold dear

If old were dear, may the now be dearer
With bells of peace in it ringing,
And if thus it be dearer, the chime will sound
nearer

The music my heart is singing

I know not if shapes that before me are looming
As vaguely as forms in the dawn appear,
Are petals of flowers with sweetness blooming
Or are thorns in the coming New Year

But whether my path through the year that
is coming

Wind over the sward, or a barren slope,
My heart like a bee is busily humming
A tune of a New Year's hope

POET SHELLEY AND HINDUISM

BY RAO SAHIB C. HAYAVADANA RAO

In his letter to Maria Gisborne Shelley wrote thus :—

*When a man marries, dies or turns Hindoo,
His best friends hear no more of him.*

Shelley lived between 1792-1821

He was never in India and has no contact with Hindus. It is a moot question as to what exactly he meant by the phrase "turns Hindoo" and then suggesting that the man is "no more" heard of. It might, perhaps be imagined that he was paying a compliment to the all-absorbing character of the socio-religious organisation known generally as Hinduism. Many distinguished writers have for long dealt on this distinctive assimilative aspect of Hinduism. Provided one is tolerant, any one can be a Hindu in thought, word and deed without forfeiting any of his cherished opinions whatever they may do. Both Saivism and Vaishnavism are in complete agreement in their highest forms in this particular matter. Neo-platonic ideas occur scattered through the writings of Shelley, as indeed in Shakespeare. We know that Neo-platonism is a system of philosophy originated in Alexandria about the beginning of the 3rd century A.D., under influences which were largely Hindu. This system of philosophy resolved the Absolute or God, into the incarnation thereof in the Logos, or reason, of man. It aimed at demonstrating the graduated transition from the absolute object to the personality of man. Whether it was a concretion of European thought and Hindu mysticism, as it has been suggested, or an attempt at the absorption into Christian philosophy and Christian mysticism of philosophical ideas it is unnecessary

to pursue here. But it may be useful to remember that Shelley's revolutionary mind, developed under the influence of William Godwin, absorbed several of these Fundamental ideas associated with the cardinal philosophical tenets of Hinduism and spoken of generally as Neo-platonism. Perhaps, it may be equally useful to remember that Shelley became, under these influences, "an enthusiast for humanity generally," as Professor Saintsbury says, "and towards individuals a man of infinite generosity and kindness." Shelley was pre-eminently the poet of lyric emotion, subtle and most musical interpreter of vague, spiritual longing and intellectual desire. His poems form together "the most sensitive", as Stopford Brooke says, "the most imaginative and the most musical and the least tangible lyrical poetry we possess." This is a just estimate. Shelley's poetry, like his very nature, can be understood only through sympathy rather than through criticism. No English poet is more remote from those tangible facts of life which daily engross European life, none has fewer points of contact with the average mental state of the average man of Europe. Like his *Sky-Lark*, Shelley moves from the earth as a cloud of fire; and his song reaches us from blue aerial heights. If we have an answering touch of his nature, if we have it in us to leave the ground we shall be caught up likewise into those luminous and unfathomable spaces where he sings. A great deal of his poetry is more easy to understand for a professing Hindu, with

his metaphysical background than for an average European. Take the following lines from *Prometheus Unbound* —

(ACT 25)

My song is an enchanted boat
Which like a sleeping swan doth float
Upon the silver waves of thy sweet singing

Take this again, from the same poem which occurs in Act 31

We too will afloat on the wild waves of ruin
Even as a vulture and a snake co-tent
Drop twisted in inextricable flight
Into a shoreless sea

Later, in Act 33 we read —

Death is the veil which those who live call
Life;
They sleep and it is lifted
Or the dead wear of self and ignorance

In *Lot's Philosophy* the following lines occur —

The fountains mingle with the river
And the rivers with the ocean
The winds of heaven mix for ever
With a sweet emotion
Nothing in the world is single
All things by a law divine
In one another's being mingle
Why not I with thine

The mystic ideas with which the writings of Shelley are so full and so very highly appreciated may be better understood from the Hindu philosophical point of view than from the purely European. This is a significant fact that has to be remembered in interpreting Shelley and the lines that we have quoted from his *Letter to Maria Gisborne* furnish the clue to this interpretation of Shelley

THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION HOW RACIAL PROBLEM WAS SOLVED

BY DR A B RUDRA

THE Dominion of Canada started its career with only four provinces—Quebec, Ontario (formerly known as lower and upper Canada and (forming a single unit) Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In course of time new provinces came in and today there are altogether nine provinces.

At the head of the Canadian federation there is a Governor General who is appointed by the King on the advice of the Dominion Government. The real executive however is the Cabinet which is following the well known British practice responsible to the federal House of Commons. It is now an accepted political principle that the two dominant races in Canada British and French as well as the different geographical areas should be fairly represented on the Cabinet—

though of course, appointments are naturally made on party lines. At the head of each provincial government there is a Lieutenant Governor appointed and dismissible by the federal government. But real power is in the hands of a provincial ministry chosen on British lines.

The Federal Parliament is bicameral. The Upper House or the Senate has 96 members all of whom are nominated for life by the Dominion Government on party considerations. The provinces are unequally represented on the Senate but the four zones into which Canada is divided are given equal number of seats. The lower House or the House of Commons is elected by universal suffrage for a period of 5 years subject to earlier dissolution. The provinces are

represented on the basis of population. Quebec has a fixed number of 65 seats, and the other provinces are, after every decennial census, given seats proportionately.

If the same party holds office during more than one Parliament, the practice is to have a French Canadian Speaker in the second Parliament if the previous Speaker was a Britisher and *vice versa*. The House has also a rule that the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker should not be of the same race.

Appointments to all offices in Parliament, high or low, are, in general, made with reference to racial differences. Both English and French can be used in debate.

Unlike the United States, Canada has no system of parallel Federal Courts. Provincial courts dispose of cases involving Dominion and Provincial laws. At the head of the whole judicial system stands the Supreme Court. The Privy Council still remains the final court. Its criminal jurisdiction has already been eliminated, and its remaining jurisdiction now continues by sufferance.

A federal constitution being aimed at, subjects of legislation have been allocated between the Dominion and provincial legislatures by the Constitution Act itself. Education is a provincial subject but there is provision for central interference in order to protect the rights of denominational educational institutions. Agriculture and immigration are concurrent subjects, that is, both the Centre and the Province have the right to legislate on these subjects, central law prevailing in case of conflict. The provinces have exclusive power over 16 enumerated subjects. The Dominion Parliament has general power of legislation

outside the subjects assigned exclusively to the provinces. It has, besides, exclusive power of legislation in respect of 29 enumerated subjects, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Act.

The constitution of Canada is clearly federal in character, though it has, in the words of Professor Kennedy, a unitary bias. The centre was advisably given a strong position in order to avoid the possibility of the outbreak in Canada of anything like the disastrous civil war that almost disrupted the federal system of the United States—a dire calamity which, it was thought, could not have happened if the Federal Government of America were strong.

The Federal Constitution of Canada has its defects and its critics. But the fact is undeniable that it has worked quite well over a long period, and has never been under serious strain. And it is most significant that, instead of accentuating and inflaming racial and religious bitterness and antagonism, it has largely eliminated both. If the race problem in Canada has not entirely disappeared, its potentiality for mischief no longer exists. The French-Canadians who form about one-third of the total population of Canada are now well content with their status—there is no more any talk of secession. National feeling in Canada has grown more and more intense. The citizens of Canada are first of all Canadians, and secondly citizens of a particular province or members of a particular race or religious group.

What a change—what a transformation—has the federal constitution brought about in the course of less than three-quarters of

a century! Yes, the change is really amazing. Consider for a moment how the French and the British populations of Canada stood in relation to each other prior to the advent of the new Constitution, 'I found,' wrote Durham in his classic Report, 'two nations warring in the bosom of a single state.' Communications in those days in that vast country were ill developed and highly unsatisfactory. People in Canada knew little of one another, and much less of the maritime provinces. The different colonies

had peculiar social backgrounds—institutions—to which each of them was deeply attached. The people, at any rate, the vast majority of them, became apathetic and even prepared for dissolution and disintegration. That was the picture in the sixties of the last century. Surely, the change effected by the constitution of 1867 is remarkable, and is responsible for the present position of Canada in the Empire and in world politics.—*Broadcast from Dacca*

HINDU COLONIES IN THE FAR EAST

BY PROF K A NEELAKANTA SASTRI, M A

THE spread of Hindu civilization to the Eastern lands across the seas and its development through several centuries is still a relatively little known chapter of India's history, at least in India. The researches of French and Dutch archaeologists in Indo China and Insulinidia carried out for the most part since the beginning of the current century have brought to light a New India of which the history and culture for the first fourteen centuries of the Christian era are seen to bear the closest possible resemblance to those of the mother country. The Greek and Arab geographers often counted these lands as part of India, and the civilization in historical times arose from an extension to them of the same process as gave rise to the Indo-Aryan civilization of India. Small bands of adventurous colonists go and settle in selected spots of an unknown country in the midst of a relatively barbarous population, by the superiority of their language, social institutions and cultural establishments they

make themselves acceptable to the local population and succeed in a short time in Hinduising and civilizing the whole land and establishing more or less powerful kingdoms, continue to maintain a fairly live contact with the mother country on the one side and China on the other and develop into great centres of industry and trade, religion, architecture and the arts. Prof R C Majumdar is one of the few scholars in India that has devoted a considerable amount of time to the study of this side of Indian history. He has already published comprehensive and scholarly books on *Campa Suvarnadwipa* and *Kambuja*. In the present volume* he anticipates the completion of his larger plan and offers a popular handbook including in a short compass all the essential facts upon the history and culture of the ancient Hindu colonies of the East. He has avoided all critical

* HINDU COLONIES IN THE FAR EAST—R C Majumdar, M A, Ph D, Fx Vice Chancellor University of Dacca (General Printers and Publishers Ltd, 110, Dharmatela Street, Calcutta)

discussions and references to authorities. The direct aim is to meet the requirements of students in the Intermediate and B.A., courses in History in the University of Calcutta. But there is no doubt that the book will attract a much wider circle of readers.

The work is divided into five parts, the first being the shortest and giving a sketch of the land and the people and some of foundation legends cherished by the colonies in later times. Part II (pp. 15-96) is devoted to the history of the Malay peninsula and the islands, Part III (pp. 97-152) to that of Campa, Part IV (pp. 153-188) to that of Kambuja, and the last part (pp. 189-232) to Burma and Siam.

When an experienced and competent scholar of such high standing has essayed a new and difficult task and attained a remarkable measure of success in its execution it seems almost unmannerly to offer any criticism of the work. It is with a view

to assist the author in improving the future editions of this very useful book that we permit ourselves a few observations. For no fault of the author the political history of the kingdoms makes somewhat monotonous reading and perhaps a greater stress on the cultural side of the subject than has been possible within the limits the author seems to have set for himself, may go far to redress the balance. Either one good large map, or a series of smaller ones must be provided to aid the reader's understanding of the political geography of the colonies. Lastly a reviewer from South India gets the feeling when he lays down the book that the author has no doubt unconsciously underestimated the role of South Indian influence in the shaping of colonial civilization; these influences are admitted on a much more generous scale in the works of the French and Dutch archaeologists mentioned above which have doubtless formed the basis of Dr. Majumdar's work.

MODERN BANKING DEVELOPMENTS

BY MR. KAMAL KUMAR GHOSH, M.A.,

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“THE scope for expansion of Indian Joint Stock Banking is unlimited” says Professor Daver in his *Law and Practice of Banking*. Indeed with 2,500 towns in India, according to our 1931 statistics, we have only 906 offices in all, providing therefore very meagre facilities for fostering banking habits to our people. Apart from the agriculturists, of which we are seventy per cent according to Misani, who are very much prejudicial or otherwise completely ignorant and in the dark about

banking, the expansion of our Indian trade and industry is also very much handicapped for want of suitable banking facilities. The 1931 figures make one surprised when compared with continental countries, that we have only one bank office for every 387,000 heads of population in India.

The war has however, brought out a renaissance. There have been many offshoots—small and big, of these tiny banking bushes, and in some cases big trees like the United Commercial Bank are already

planted with beneficent results. Almost every town of any importance has its bank offices and more than 500 banks have grown up in Bengal alone registered under the Indian Companies Act. Not that these Banks are sitting tight without business, but expansion in bank deposits is a characteristic feature of the war.

The war has also experienced spectacular growth in works of Bills of Exchange. Military contractors have come up—big and small, taking contracts more than their capacities and passing on their bills through banks who are purchasing them with stipulated margins. Many indigenous industries have grown up with the consequent floating of Shares in the market and the bankers are having transactions in overdrafts with these shares as securities. With the expansion of business, bills for collection have increased. Besides these, deposits in different kinds have grown immensely.

But the question is, whether these institutions will have healthy survivals? Or will they be nipped in the bud with the cessation of hostilities? We know, out of the 500 banks above referred to, only one sixth of them have a paid up capital and reserve of Rs. 50,000 and over and out again of them only seventeen are in the first category.

But are not these small banks which are actually doing business in the mufassil towns of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa? It will be astonishing to know, that of the 'big five' which have grown up under Indian Management except the Central Bank of India Ltd, no other Bank has started a single branch in any of the smaller towns

of these three provinces, not even in the metropolis excepting Calcutta. Indeed as Mr K P Thakur has pointed out, 'The Directors of these institutions do not appear to exhibit by their action a fair knowledge of the business requirements of these provinces, or else they do not take pains or have the desire to understand the needs of these places.' Thanks however, to the benevolent institution of the late Sir Sorabji Poochikhanawala, the people of the smaller towns in these three provinces are immensely benefited.

Hence the importance of these small banking institutions for North Eastern India. But have they really taken advantage of the very large expansion of currency during the war to stand the test of post war trial? A close study of the internal working of these banking organisations will reveal that they have not. Although the Managers of these small banks are in more advantageous position than the Central Bank of India Ltd in these places, because of their personal touch in these localities yet the majority of them have not been able to develop their institutions through healthy growth. Jealous and unhealthy competitions are the principal causes of this weakness of the structure. Individualism has again played a prominent part in their developments, resulting in unhealthy fostering of individualistic interest rather than of the institutions. Banking discipline has been on the whole everywhere ignored, in some places even at the risk of speculations without safeguarding the depositor's interests. The Head offices of many of these institutions have only cared to expand

without foreseeing the consequences of their survival, or the probabilities of a 'shake' to the main root because of their collapse. Indeed as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India pointed out, many of these small banking institutions will be ruined because of their establishments in towns where the possibilities of banking developments are meagre.

Of course there are again some among these small banking institutions, who are very much conservative in opening branches, the New National Bank Ltd, for instance, with only seven offices on the whole. No doubt such 'conservatism' is encouraging at the outset, but conservative or liberal, everywhere there should be an eye for healthy growth, fair competition and *good selection of staff*.

Leaving aside the five big Bengali Banks—Nath Bank, Comilla Banking Corporation, Comilla Union, Bengal Central and the Calcutta National, we have in all about 25 banks having paid-up capital and reserve of between 50 thousand and one lakh. Besides these, there are another 27 banks with one lakh to five lakhs paid-up capital. There are again a third grade of non-scheduled banks having paid-up capital and reserves of Five lakhs and over numbering about a dozen.

What one feels with an eye and desire to the survival of these small institutions on the one hand, and the facilities they extend to the towns of these three provinces, is that of any device that can be sought out to save them from their imminent danger ahead. The first question that naturally comes up is of unhealthy

competition. The one easy remedy is either of mutual co-operation or of amalgamation of groups of small banks into one giant bank. Such amalgamation will neither prejudice the interest of the share-holders, directors or members on the staff, nor would they hamper working in any way. Hence a Union of small banking institutions in North East India is a necessity.

The second thing is of staff selection to avoid individualistic interest to predominate over the interest of the institution. How often do we not hear in the mufassils that a certain bank is flourishing because of a certain local director or a manager, not for the institution for its own sake? This is degrading and hampers the ultimate progress, and in all such individualistic assertions, these institutions get ups and downs, and mainly flourish at the cost of a sister institution in the locality. Utmost precautions should be taken against all such unhealthy growth and should be discouraged by both the public at large and institutions.

Then comes the discipline of the institution upon which much of the reputation of the entire structure depends. It is a common feature with these small institutions that the officials in the branch offices are in major cases not properly trained. To please their constituents they often run the risk of the common rules to safeguard the depositors' interest. As regards banking hours they are often unduly corrupted, and in organisation attempt black-mailing others. The sooner these difficulties are removed, the quicker the success of these institutions.

Next comes the relation of these branch offices with their main office. More often than not the head offices are on the look out for getting more milk rather than feeding the cow properly. The Superintendent of Branches and the Organising Secretaries and Development officers care more for extracting rather than seeing the means for extraction. The result is that the branches cannot develop business locally and the officers in the branches often feel tied up or bound down by Head office autocracy.

If however, it is an utopian ideal that groups of small banks cannot be amalgamated together or brought under a single Union, utmost care should be taken to see that nothing unhealthy fosters and the institutions cooperate mutually. In view of a number of offices of different banking institutions in mufasil towns, there has been a tendency to form managers' associations which is a healthy growth no doubt, but in view of the differences at the root, these associations serve no practical purpose whatsoever. We often hear of a constituent of a particular branch of an institution being harassed by a sister branch in bill collection or some such allied affairs. The cheque of one institution is returned by another institution although it can be safely passed for slight difference. What however, is essential is a healthy co-operation and fair competition.

Side by side a few things must also be borne in mind. In opening a branch, a first hand Survey of the area with minutest present and future possibilities should be studied. Once the branch is opened, it would be too late to think it a

wrong selection. As such, much of the work—of deposits and of securing healthy constituents,—should be finished before the opening ceremony is actually performed, and the next item should be staff selection of which we have dealt at length already. As regards loans, it is expedient to start with short period loans and first class securities should always be sought for. Bill of Exchange should form a principal item of work because bills collections bill purchase, hoonds, Railway Receipt, Warrants, Inward and Outward bills, although not much profitable, yet attract constituents. Popularity and speedy work are, above all, special virtues of sound banking. Lastly people's confidence should always be imbibed.

Hence, it has been rightly said that small affairs should be left in the hands of the small banks. But the writer with his practical experience both in small and bigger institutions is pessimistic if these small institutions will stand the test of time, barring a few, under their present working system. Why not, therefore, bring a reformation either for their doing or their death and in the latter case allow scope to the bigger institutions to flourish for the good of the country and the Nation?

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T. Madras.

War and the Steel Industry in India

By MR. PHIROZ KUTAR, B.A., D.Sc., M.S., Met E (U.S.A)

THE Indian steel industry had confined itself up to the thirties to the manufacture of ordinary plain carbon steel, chiefly for structural materials for home consumption and rails for the requirement of Indian Railways. The manufacture of high quality alloy and tool steels was practically non-existent, excepting small scale attempts by some steel makers for their own Works requirements. Just about fifteen years ago, when the steel industry in India had established itself, did it begin to look around and put in serious efforts to get its rightful share of the special alloy steel market that was growing apace. The impetus to embark on the manufacture of a suitable alloy structural steel presented itself when the project for the construction of the new Howrah Bridge was undertaken. Tatas rose to the occasion by producing 'Tiscrom', which is a low-alloy high-tensile structural steel, about 17,000 tons of which was incorporated in the construction of the new Howrah Bridge. With the advent of low alloy high-tensile steel, began the development of another alloy steel, 'Tiscor', which is particularly resistant to corrosion and abrasion, and is of a sufficiently higher yield strength to enable rail-road engineers to design railway cars, trucks etc., of much lighter construction, where the hauling of dead weight is a detrimental factor.

The first real opportunity for making alloy steels in bulk presented itself in 1940, when the Tata Iron & Steel Co., were called upon to make armour plates. Having no prior experience in the manufacture and production of such a class of ordnance steel, the work undertaken had to start

practically from scratch without any outside help. Intensive research was undertaken, as a result of which first-class bullet-proof armour plates were developed, that have been tested and found to be as good if not better than those made in other countries. The armoured cars built in India with these plates, did magnificent service in the Eighth Army's forward drive in North Africa.

Although the greater portion of the tonnage of alloy steels manufactured in India during the war was for armour plates, attention was also paid to other ordnance requirements. While alloy steel shell bars, special quality welding rods for the welding of bullet proof plates, forgings for armaments and alloy bar stock for the production of armour-piercing projectiles were produced, those for the manufacture of parachute harness, non-magnetic bullet-proof steel for helmets etc, were likewise successfully manufactured and supplied as and when the need arose.

In spite of the many pressing demand of war, the manufacture of alloy and special steels for civilian needs was not lost sight of. For instance, during the war there was a shortage of small coins. The Government had therefore to plan a general expansion of the production capacities of the Mint, and enough steel for mint dies for coinage was not available. Once again Indian ingenuity and research helped in the production of the necessary die steel to ease the situation. The Posts & Telegraphs Department of the Government of India in their turn felt the acute shortage of imported magnet bars, needed for telephone and telegraphic sets. To meet this urgent

demand, research on permanent magnets was undertaken and several types of magnet steels were produced and supplied, which helped to avert a breakdown in our country's communications. Then came the manufacture of stainless steels for cutlery, surgical instruments, and equipments for chemical and engineering industries. A further achievement has been the production of high speed steels. Without these steels naturally the sinews of war in the form of guns and ammunitions could not have been turned out. If it had not been possible to supply this steel at a time when it was most needed in the country, much of the industrial war-machine would have been at

a standstill. The difficulties in the production of these steels were many: equipment had to be improvised and manufacture had to be carried out in plants not fully equipped for the purpose. It was indeed a challenge to Indian metallurgists and technicians, to develop the country's war potential to the maximum in the face of heavy odds. India accepted this challenge and showed what determination, application and resourcefulness could accomplish. The steel industry in India to-day is therefore in a definitely better position to meet our future needs of alloy steels—needs which will only grow with the tempo of industrialization of this great continent.

ORIGIN OF THE RAJPUTS

By DR D C GANGULY, M.A., Ph.D (London).

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THE term Rajput is a contraction of the word 'Rajaputra', which ordinarily means a prince. It was also the name of an office in ancient time. It is not found to have been used to denote a tribe or a race in any record of the pre-Moslem period. The bardic tales of Rajaputana mention the names of thirtysix clans constituting the Rajput tribe. Of them the Pratihara, Paramaras, Solankis (Chaulukyas), Chauhan, and the Guhilas occupied a very high position. The history of some of these dynasties can be traced from the sixth century A.D. They are not, however, found mentioned in the Epics and in the early Puranas. All these clans put forward

various pretensions by tracing their descent from Epic or mythical heroes. After the discovery of the Rajore stone inscription, the question of the origin of the Rajputs is taken to be definitely settled. This inscription, which was found in the village Rajore, in the Alwar State, Rajaputana, states that during the sovereignty of Vijayapala (of the Pratihara dynasty of Kanauj) the king Mathana of the Gurjara-Pratihara family granted a village with all its income together with the neighbouring fields cultivated by the Gurjaras. The scholars almost unanimously think that the expression "Gurjara-Pratihara family" definitely means the

Pratihara family of the Gurjara tribe. Gurjaras are mentioned in the various records of the early mediaeval period in India. They are identical with Khazars, who settled in Armenia, in the early years of the Christian era. They migrated to India along with the Hunas in the latter part of the fifth century A. D. The Rajatarangini mentions about the Alakhana, king of Gurjara. There are now places called Gurjaranwala and Gujarat in the Punjab. In the ninth century A. D. portions of Jaypur and Alwar States were known as Gurjaratra. Modern Gujarat in the Bombay Presidency was anciently known as Anarta. It came to be known as Gurjaratra or Gurjara from the eleventh century. All these only show the land marks in the advance of the Gurjaras from the north to the interior of India. The Pratiharas, who were a branch of the Gurjara tribe, were racially connected with all other Rajput clans. It may be concluded from this that all the thirtysix Rajput clans were members of the Gurjara tribe. In other words, all of them were foreigners who had no connection with the Indian soil before the fifth century A. D. This theory of the origin of the Rajputs has found favour with almost all the modern scholars.

Apart from the fact that there is no valid ground for thinking that the Gurjaras are identical with Khazars, the existence of the Gurjaras can be traced on the bank of the Cauvery river even before the fifth century A. D. It has been noticed above that the current theory of the origin of the Rajputs is entirely based on the interpretation of the expression "Gurjara-

Pratiharanvaya", as mentioned in the Rajore stone inscription. There is authentic evidence to prove that Gurjara was the name of a country in the early period. This is identical with Gurjaratra, referred to above, and Guzarat, mentioned by Al Biruni. In the epigraphic records there are expressions like Kalinga-Ganga, Vengi Chalukya etc, which mean Gangas of the Kalinga country and the Chalukyas of the city of Vengi. So the expression *Gurjara-Pratihara-anvaya* may very well mean the Pratihara family of the Gurjara country. Here the object of the author of the inscription is to show that the Pratihara line which Mathanadeva belonged to is distinct from the Kanyakubja-Pratihara family of which his overlord Vijayapala was a member. The term Gurjara at the end of the inscription means the people who were residents of the country of this name. In this circumstance, the Rajore inscription cannot be taken to have definitely proved the Gurjara origin of the Pratiharas.¹

Epigraphic records and the Arab Geographers occasionally mention about the Gurjaras. It has now been generally assumed that the term definitely refers to the Pratiharas of Kanauj. A close scrutiny of all these sources, however, leads to a different conclusion. The early kings of the imperial Pratihara dynasty ruled from Ujjain, the capital of Malava. Sometime between A. D. 808 and A. D. 812 they lost Malava to the Rashtrakutas of the Deccan, and established their capital at

¹ Author's—*Origin of the Pratihara Dynasty*.—*Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol X, 337.

Kanauj Gurjara or Gurjaratra was ruled by a branch of the Guhila dynasty under the suzerainty of these Pratiharas. The Rashtrakuta records make it clear that Gurjara, referred to by them, is the name of a country, and that there was a lord of the king of Gurjara.² A Ganga chief of Mysore claims that by conquering the northern region he became known as the king of the Gurjaras. Nobody thinks that the Gangas had any racial connection with the Gurjara tribe. Similarly, the inscriptions of the Kalachuris and the Chandellas carefully distinguish a king of the Pratihara dynasty from the king of the Gurjaras.³ The Arab geographers Sulaiman, Abu Zaid Ibn Khurdadba, Al Baladhuri, Al Mas'udi and Al Idrisi mention about Jurz or Gurjara which may mean a tribe or a country. Al Baladhuri makes it clear that Jurz is the name of a country. So that other Arab geographers may be taken to have used the term in the same sense.⁴ If all these discussions are summarised, it follows that no definite evidence has hitherto been discovered to establish racial connection between the Pratiharas and the Gurjara tribe.

The Pratiharas and the other Rajput clans relate in their inscriptions quite different stories about their origin. They never mention themselves as members of

the Gurjara tribe. It is argued that they kept silent about their Gurjara origin because they did not like to disclose their foreign connection. If it is accepted, it will be difficult to explain why the Pratihara Mathanadeva as late as in the middle of the 10th century humiliated his family by disclosing its foreign origin. Of the Rajput clans who flourished in the pre Moslem period, the Pratiharas, Chahamanas, and the Guhilas are known to have been originally Brahmans. In the subsequent period they through matrimonial alliances were reduced to the position of the Kshatriyas. If it is assumed that all of them came to India in the latter part of the 5th century, it is inexplicable how they rose to the position of a Brahman in the course of little more than half a century. The Imperial Guptas, the Maukharis, and the Pushyabhatis who flourished about this time, could not make any such pretention. The age, which did not allow a Brahman to retain his social rank if he had married a girl of a lower rank did not certainly allow the foreigners, used to different social rites and customs, to be passed as Brahmans. The Pratiharas claim their descent from the Epic hero Lakshmana, the Chahamanas claim solar origin, and the Solaukis believed to have been originated from the palm of Brahma. Facts thus narrated will prove that though all of them were "the followers of the Brahmanical religion, they were not of the same stock. In the 14th century they along with some other families formed a tribe, which was given the name Rajput.

² Author's—*Gurjara in the Rashtrakuta Records*—Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, Calcutta.

³ *Pratiharas and the Gurjaras*—Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society—Vol. XXIV.

⁴ Author's—*History of the Gurjara Country*—Indian Historical Quarterly—Vol. X, 613.

THE PEOPLE'S SONGS

BY MR. J. G. KARANDIKAR, B.A., B.T., (BARSI)

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IN the field of literature bearing on international topics, the songs of the people reveal to us a fresh avenue. The significance and potent influence of these songs cannot be overlooked. These songs have represented and have in turn moulded the feelings of the masses throughout the world, irrespective of the considerations of nationality, caste creed or religion. They testify to the fact that the interests, aspirations, requirements and grievances of the people of all climes and races are practically identical. The rise of "the labouring class" has been the cause of the composition of a number of excellent "songs of the people", with which we are concerned in the present article. It is therefore necessary in the first instance to understand the back-ground of these songs.

The awakening of the Kisans and the labour population and the lower middle class in general, to their economic, social and political rights on an extensive scale, all the world over, is a land-mark of the history of the present century. This awakening was already set afoot by the end of the last century especially in western countries. Slave trade was successfully abolished and a large mass of people who were pining in bondage and groping in gloom were given freedom from their vile fetters. Impetus was given to several humanitarian movements. Reforms Acts were passed, parliamentary institutions were made more representative, religious toleration was apace. Due to rapid improvements and developments in the ways and means

of communications and due to various inventions and discoveries, economic prosperity seemed to be at its peak. The world was thus made richer than ever before; but it was a question whether it was made better or happier to live in. All these manifold activities which were expected to weld humanity could not avert the outbreak of wars—world-wars. For though wealth increased, the territorial and colonial ambitions of powerful nations increased still more. Capitalism was fast gaining ground, wealth was centralized in a fortunate few and a vast majority left to combat the problems that the Industrial Revolution had brought in its train, was reduced to slavery of another type. Reaction was apt to follow and a very remarkable reaction to this situation was produced in Russia where the Bolsheviks came in power in the year 1917 under the intrepid leadership of Lenin, the Saviour of the "masses". The expression Bolshevik rule means the rule of the majority, and it is the working class who form the bulk of the population. "The Union of the Socialist Soviet Republics" of Russia was intended in the real sense to be the proletariat Government. The Bolsheviks have no imperial ambition because the principle of Bolshevism is itself repugnant to Imperialism. They do not defy capital what they defy is capitalism. They are moreover not content with the establishment of Communism in Russia; for, to them communism is an international principle. Henceforth the working man

will abandon his narrow nationalism and will be a member of the International Labour Association. He is to merge his individuality in social regeneration. He is to live for the Society. Society to him is his own family and so the good of the masses is the good of the individual.

Indeed, this does not appear to be a novel principle. For, it has been preached for hundreds of years in the past by all great saints, philosophers and benefactors of mankind. It does not appear to be different from the principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. All the same, it must be admitted that Bolshevism does not reach beyond the materialistic welfare of the Society. But once we know the limits of the principle, there is no harm in appreciating its merits.

It was since the rise of Bolshevism that the "people's songs" loomed large in international literature. This does not however mean that the songs of this type were not composed before it. Only the number of such songs was limited. Nearly a century before the dawn of Bolshevism some songs of this nature were composed, especially in countries like England, France and America where democracy was taking deep root. These songs were in a way the precursors of a new chapter in the life of mankind, with its new songs invested with a fresh vigour. During the nineteenth century, the abolition of slave trade, already referred to was one of the greatest humanitarian achievements. By this time an American abolitionist by name William Lloyd Garrison who lived from 1805 to 1879, wrote a song 'Hope for the Enslaved'. It makes a passing

reference to the enslaved Africans, still the dominant note of the song consists in its spirited message to the people in bondage, to the workers in abject misery and servitude wheresoever their habitation may be. With his deep poetic vision and prophetic faith the poet declares that at the dread of the Lord, the fetters shall fall from every limb, the strong shall no more wrong the weak and liberty's sweet song will be sung by all. "Nation with nation and land with land shall live unarmed as comrades free, and the pulse of one fraternity shall throb in every heart and brain, these things shall be—they are no dream", says J. A. Symonds (1840-1893) in his vigorous and popular song 'These things shall be'. Among the songs of the last century, "The People's Anthem" occupies a high rank. The writer of this song is Ebenezer Elliott, the Sheffield corn law rhymer who lived from 1781 to 1849. He wrote much verse that moved the hearts of the people of his day but this one poem which thrills with a love for the great mass of men was written for all ages and applies to the people who are oppressed and downtrodden, no matter in what part of the globe they live. William Morris, an English poet and artist, wrote a beautiful poem "March of the Workers" at the time when the right to vote was conceded to the labouring classes. All the wide world—every corner of the earth—is their dwelling place. The workers shall battle for the world of men and life, and the hope of every creature is their banner, this is the significant message of his song that augurs bright for the working class. Charles Dickens, the great English

novelist who fought for the betterment of the employees and against the injustice of some of the employers who exploited the poor labourers, has written "The Hymn of the labourers." He says in it that the care-worn looks of these labourers will make God's Angels weep and he implores God to show compassion for the poor.

These were some of the earlier attempts at the composition of people's songs. Whenever, therefore, occasions arose for the majority of the people—the labour class—to ventilate their grievances, the people's songs have been composed to inspire them to do their utmost in fighting for the justice of their cause. In them the sufferings of the masses are voiced and hope is expressed for their liberation from the thralldom of the "tyrants" who used to reap pleasures from the pains of the workers. "The Marseillaise" is one of the grandest songs of the liberty of the people, that has ever been written. It is no doubt the national anthem of the French Republic and as such an appeal is made through it to the sons of France at a critical period in their history. All the same it is something more; for whenever people are striving against oppression, crying for bread, straining every nerve to achieve their freedom, they beat to the tune of "Marseillaise." It is indeed the anthem of liberty all the world over. Later on, with the advent of Bolshevism, a number of people's songs were composed. These international songs know no boundaries as they emanate from one and the same source of love, love for humanity, sympathy for the masses who rise in revolt against injustice and tyranny. And it is

here that the ideals of nationalism and internationalism are reconciled with each other. In fact there is no need of any conflict between them. For, genuine nationalist outlook will embody for us an ideal of internationalism demanding from us the same considerations for other nationalities and peoples as for ours. Why do we like to read the national songs and anthems of people who owe no physical kinship to us, with a secret ecstasy and love? These songs thrill us with joy and we sigh with grief when they awaken among us the consciousness of our own bondage. Why is it that Russia's "International" and a number of alien songs of this type appeal to us as deeply as some of the finest Kisan songs of India? It is because of the victorious glad cry of the young proletariat and we are influenced by the spell of their pure emotion. They are the sacred songs of liberty, songs of the people, songs of Hope and Vision of a new world purged of impurities and striving to come closer than before in fraternal unity. They are composed in different languages in different parts of the world, but they are so wide in their sweep that they are fit to be sung in shouts of jubilation over seas and continents.

"The International", the celebrated song of the Communists, was originally written in Russian tongue and is now translated into several languages of the world. Harindranath Chattopadhyaya has translated it into Hindi. The hungry slaves (Bhooke Bandi) are called upon to arise and to face the foe. "We that are nothing shall be all"—this is the key-note of the "Workers'".

International' The people ask naught but what's due, "Labour's fruit should to labour accrue" "The Socialist March" the Labour's battle cry, is written by H D Harben It is originally in German "The joy of earth and sun and sky" and "the dawn of Light and liberty to all the People now, for ever" fill the poet's heart with ecstasy Peace now prevails and blessings of Joy and Hope come for all the workers in every home now and forever In 'Onward Brothers' Havelock Ellis tells them to march still onward, hand in hand till they at last see "man's true kingdom," till they reach the promised land Besides these and other songs composed by non-Indians, there are some fine songs composed by Indian poets and patriots Mr Dhundiraj G Vinod, an eminent Maharashtrian scholar and philosopher in his song "Eternal Youth of Nations" makes a stirring appeal to the youth to throng from distant climes and places with seeds of science and song proffered by all our races, for, he says, our inward Union sweetens our petty feuds across the dividing shores Mr Kanitkar, also, called Sevaka Sevananda, a reputed patriot of Poona, advocates the establishment of Samya Rajya in every village based on the collective activity of the villagers To them the village is just like a big family the members of which will act in perfect cordiality with one another, where everybody is a worker and nobody a master In his opinion this is the only way to bring about a peaceful revolution—to attain Swaraj He further aspires to extend this Samya Rajya in Indian villages to other countries as well For in it he says lies the panacea for all the evils of

autocracy which has so far disturbed the peace of the world O Labourer, O brave Kisan, the triumphant hero of the age of revolution, let us do away with the forces of tyranny, and sow the seeds of equality We will be slaves no longer The nations soon shall know that all who live must labour and all who reap must sow That is in general the message of "the Kranti Geeta" of Kanitkar

Of all the People's Songs in India, "Inquilob Zindabad" is perhaps the best known It is a glorious communist song and has gained immense popularity The title of this song (long live Revolution!) is made up of Persian and Arabic words Still it has become a chorus for a number of songs written in different Indian languages This itself is a proof of the wonderful hold it exercises upon mass mind Inquilob Zindabad rises as a mighty chorus from a thousand throats—a mighty roar that inspires the hearts of the people and stirs their emotions for the doing of doughty deeds Of all the songs that bear this title, that composed by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya is the most famous It is written in Hindi It is a rousing call to labourers and kisans to achieve their freedom and never to forget the cruel acts of the despoilers The poet assures them of their bright future A song of this title is also written in Gujarathi by Keshav Seth and in Marathi by Kanitkar alias Sevaka Sevananda

Some of the people's songs also come under the category of Marching songs For instance, "The sun is set" (Soorya Asta Ho Gaya) is a renowned people's

song, which is also the Marching song of the communists and of the Congress Seva Dal. It is a Hindi song composed by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya. In it the poet draws a gruesome picture of the miseries and tribulations of the labouring poor. The song overflows with pathos from start to finish. The sun is set, the firmament is overcast with dark clouds, everything all round is in flames, and we are suffering from extreme thirst. The sun has risen and set and death is near. Misery is the sister of the poor and hunger their companion. A dismal but not an overdrawn picture of the people's plight!

"Kisan March"—"Kisan Cooch" is another distinguished marching song of the Kisans, sung by Mr. Muchate, a reputed ballad-singer of Dhulia. He has propagated the spirited message of this song in hundreds of villages, the home of the Kisans. In it he sings of getting rid of the shackles of capitalism and of eradicating unjust traditions, as these have sucked in our blood by offering us a hollow support. The song is in Hindi and has become very popular. Songs of this nature are also composed by such poets as Khabardar and Kavi Nhanalal in Gujarathi, by Sohoni Lal Dwivedi and Sudheendra in Hindi, by Dr. Tagore in Bengali and by Senapati Bapat in Marathi.

All these people's songs are international songs but then they are not incompatible with truly national songs. For, he who most deeply, and wisely loves his own

country is the very man who will most deeply care for the welfare of mankind. Songs of true freedom do not recognise nationalism and internationalism as watertight compartments. For, true freedom consists not only in breaking the fetters of our own nation but also in being earnest with head, heart and hand to make others free.

An attempt is made in this article to put in a nutshell the message of some of the most celebrated songs composed by Indian as well as by foreign poets. The purpose of this article will be served if it prepares the readers to study and appreciate the songs in their original.

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THE AUSSIES IN INDIA

By MR V R LAKSHMI RATAN

— o —

ON Friday the 7th of December, the 3rd Unofficial Test between an India XI and the Australian Services XI commenced on the beautiful Chepauk ground at Madras. The two previous unofficial tests played at Bombay and Calcutta were indecisive. At Bombay the visitors covered themselves with glory and time saved the Indian side from defeat. When the teams again met in Calcutta, the India XI came into their own particularly in the second innings, and the match once again ended in a draw with honours even. In view of these two drawn games, the Third Unofficial Test was keenly looked forward to.

Hasset won the toss and sent in Whittington and Carmody to open the innings. Bannerji, India's number one pace bowler, met with immediate success by dismissing Carmody before a run was scored. The Australians met with further disaster when they lost Whittington, Pettiford, Price and Miller for very poor scores. They were in a very pitiful plight when they adjourned for lunch with the score at 105 for 5 wickets with most of their good batsmen back in the pavilion. On resumption after lunch, Hasset took complete charge of the situation and slowly steered the game round. He gave an extremely fine display of class batting. He scored mostly by late cuts, hooks and pulls to leg. Not even once did Hasset drive the ball in front of the wicket, not because he did not know how to do it, but due to the fact that the bowling was very steady and Hasset was not prepared to take any chances. Hasset along

with Pepper put on 181 runs for the 6th wicket before Pepper was out leg before wicket to C S Nayudu. Pepper played a very invaluable innings though his knock was not of the same class as that of Hasset's. Pepper used his height and power when making strokes in front of the wicket. He played with very great restraint and the slow bowlers failed to tempt him out of his crease. After Pepper's dismissal there was none to give the Australian skipper a stand. Hasset was the last out and the Australian innings terminated for 339.

Bannerji and Sarawate, the Indore slow bowler, shared the bowling honours by capturing four wickets each. The bowling was steady throughout but the fielding was far from good. With the exception of Gul Mahomed and C S Nayudu the rest were very slow and the pick and return to the wicket were untidy.

At about 11.15 on the second day, the India XI's innings commenced. Once again the bowlers got the initial advantage by dismissing four of the Indian batsmen out for 110 runs including that of the great Vijay Merchant, Hazare, Mushtaq Ali and Hafeez. At such a critical situation Amarnath rose to great heights and along with young Modi of Bombay, put on 99 runs for the fifth wicket before getting out for a very well played 113. Amarnath's batting put into shade even Hasset's fine effort on the previous day. If Hasset scored mainly by hooks and late cuts, Amarnath got most of his runs by powerful and well timed drives in front of the wicket. Russi Modi, the only

young cricketer now in India who has scored a number of double centuries, did one better by scoring the first double century by an Indian in an unofficial test match. Modi is not a brilliant or dashing batsman like Amarnath. On the other hand, he is sound and has the right temperament for big cricket. He is not yet a finished player but as he is still quite young he is sure to be one of the out-standing batsmen in India within the next year or two. C. S. Nayudu and Gul Mohamed further consolidated the position by some adventurous batting before the Indian side were all out for 525 runs.

When the Australians went in for the second time, contrary to the expectation of very many, the two opening batsmen attacked the bowling straightway from the start. In a little less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours the Australians made 148 runs for the loss of only one wicket. Both Carmody and Whittington treated the Indian bowling with little or no respect and made a draw possible.

On the fourth day of the match, it appeared as though the Australians who had nine wickets in tact would wipe off the deficit and put on a respectable total and thus force a draw. A victory for the Australians was out of question. But there are two factors which are not generally taken into account. One, Dame fortune and two, the Chepank wicket on the fourth day.

Carmody who batted with gay abandon the previous afternoon, was tied up by Bannerji and Sarawate the next morning. He was not able to play a single shot properly and was beaten time and again. He ultimately succumbed to Bannerji who howled a bit slower and took full advantage of the crumbling wicket. Sarawate accounted for Hasset and Pepper, the two stalwarts. Miller once again failed being howled by Bannerji. With very great difficulty the Australians managed to wipe off the deficit and get a lead of 89 runs. Once again Bannerji and Sarawate shared the bowling honours.

India had over $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours to make 90 runs for an outright win. With a fine array of

batsmen like Merchant, Amarnath, Hazare and Modi, no one doubted the victory of the Indian side. The opening pair, Merchant and Mushtaq Ali, scored 59 runs before Mushtaq Ali was out. Then there was a mild landslide which made the finish very exciting. Amarnath was howled by Hasset and Hazare was out to Whittington for a duck. Merchant was out to a brilliant bit of fielding and it was left to Modi to get the last two runs that was required for win.

The India XI thoroughly deserved their victory and, as Hasset put it, the Australians were out-batted and outbowed.

The Late Mr. Kalmath Roy

Journalism in India has suffered a serious loss in the death of Kalmath Roy of the *Tribune* of Lahore. Kalmath was a Bengalee who early came under the spell of Surendrarath Banerjee. But he soon drifted to the Punjab and gave to that Province thirty years of devoted service, just as Sir C. Y. Chintamani, an Andhra, gave of his best to the United Provinces and made the *Leader* of Allahabad an organ of undisputed influence and public service. A man of versatile talents and vigorous independence of outlook, he belonged to a generation which made the newspaper a vehicle of public education through its editorials. And he succeeded to a degree seldom surpassed even in these days of tabloid journalism when catchy headlines and breezy paragraphs are preferred to longwinded dissertations. Over the Punjab he exercised a wholesome influence and he made himself so indispensable to the Trustees of the *Tribune* that they could not think of a substitute for him when he fell ill. Indeed they made special arrangements to obtain his "copy" from his retreat wherever it might be. At the age of 68 he continued to be the same master craftsman and to the end he remained the dauntless champion of the rights of the Press and the liberties of the people. May his tribe increase!

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Parliamentary Delegation to India

REPEATED disappointments in the past have somewhat cooled popular enthusiasm in this country for Parliamentary delegations of the kind—that is coming out to India. But it would be a mistake says Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, "to cold shoulder this delegation." It is revealed that such a delegation to study the conditions in this country first hand by personal contacts and discussions was suggested to the Prime Minister and Lord Prithvi Lawrence by Mr N M Joshi, the Indian Labour leader.

The present delegation is by no means exactly the one suggested by Mr Joshi but considering that there are in it men like Mr Sorensen who assures us that the delegation is coming out with free hands and minds, it is in the best interest of all to help it solve the constitutional problem in India in the quickest and earliest way possible.

"And the best form of co-operation that the country can offer," says our elder statesman "is to speak without reserve freely and frankly." "I do sincerely hope," he adds "that they will not allow themselves to be chaperoned by a certain class of people in India." This is important. For, as Sir Tej warns

It is no use their repeating from day to day that the Government is willing to offer to find a Self Government and only Indians will not take it because of mutual differences. Differences are there and every honest attempt should be made to compose these differences.

But what is going to happen if one party or other refuses to be reasonable or discuss constitutional proposals across the table? Such a thing happened once, and neither the Viceroy nor His Majesty's Government lifted a little finger to put the matter right. If the Government mean business, there should be no repetition of such a fiasco.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru

On the 1st of December last, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru completed the psalmist's three score years and ten when he was the recipient of felicitations from all over the country. Sir Tej is today one of the most distinguished of our elder state men, revered alike by all parties and groups, irrespective of their political predilections. A Liberal by instinct and training he severed his connections with the Liberal Federation only to make himself freer and more fitting for the role of the peace maker between the different parties on the one hand and Government on the other. This difficult and often thankless task he has performed, in collaboration with Dr Jayakar so long and with such distinction that the twin have come to be known as the peace makers *par excellence*. Only one wishes that their good mission had proved more fruitful. Yet nothing could abate the spirit of amity and good will that Sir Tej inspires in the hearts of his fellow workers.

Sir Tej has made a great name for himself as jurist and statesman, and his professional and public career has been "one unbroken series of triumphs." Such a record, as Dr. S. Sinha truly says, must impress the younger generation—whether lawyers or public workers—with those sterling qualities of his which enabled him to achieve the highest position and distinction in more than one sphere of meritorious public activities.

In a beautiful tribute of homage and affection to his fellow townsman Pandit Nehru wrote of Sir Tej that he is an embodiment of that synthesis of culture which India is always aiming at, and after referring to him as an elder statesman "with a certain ripeness of judgment" he added:

But more than all this he was a good friend on whom one could always rely and a man straight and true when so many about us are neither straight nor true. Even though he led a long older life was always the freshness of youth about him and on his face there was a welcoming smile for every comer.

Indian Judiciary and the British Parliament

It is reported that a Bill is to be introduced in the *British* Parliament curtailing the powers of the *Indian* Judiciary. No draft bill has been published in India and people in this country have had no opportunity to express an opinion on it. It is a strange commentary on the so-called "Dominion status in action" which is supposed to be in operation in India! The proposed bill attempts to restrict the power and jurisdiction of the courts with regard to certain acts of the Central Government. Fancy a legislation of this far-reaching character being rushed through a Parliament five thousand miles away without even the courtesy of consultation with the people who are most affected by it. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, the Liberal leader of Bombay, invites pointed attention to "this reprehensible practice," in his letter to the *Times of India*.

While the war was on, there might have been some excuse for undertaking emergency legislation in Parliament regarding India, but now that the war is over, there is no justification whatever for passing legislation in Parliament affecting India without giving the Indian people an opportunity to have their say about it.

If the contemplated legislation is intended in any manner to curtail the power and jurisdiction of the judiciary, there is greater reason for the Indian public being informed of the terms of the proposed legislation and given sufficient time for Indian opinion being made available to Parliament before the legislation is put through.

The Release of I.N.A. Officers

As we go to press, we learn with no little relief and satisfaction that H. E. the Commander-in-Chief has remitted the sentence of transportation passed by the Court Martial against the three I.N.A. men.

H. E. Excellency has, in this decision, shown an imagination the want of which, as Mr. Asaf Ali said, "has been responsible for much that was avoidable."

The Commander-in-Chief has, however, confirmed the sentence of cashiering and forfeiture of streets of pay and allowances since "it is in all circumstances a most serious crime for an officer or soldier to throw off his allegiance and wage war against the State."

Trial of Indians in Malaya

In his concluding address in the I.N.A. trials Sir Nashirwan P. Engineer, while calling for conviction on all counts, as he should in his position in charge of the case for prosecution, suggested to the General Court Martial the possibility of mitigating its sentences on the ground that the motives of the accused, whether wise or misguided, were patriotically inspired. No such consideration seems to have weighed with the runaway government of Malaya which has just been installed in power after its position had been made secure by allied arms.

For it is with no little surprise that we learn that the punishment for collaboration with the enemy is death in Malaya and that no lesser sentence is admissible. In a statement to the Press, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, pricks the bubble of Government's contention, with unassailable logic.

What has the law to do with the cases now under trial? If a country is at war, argues Mr. Sastri,

any one who collaborates with the enemy is warring with his country from within and his punishment may appropriately be death.

But does it apply to a case "where the ruler runs away, leaving the population behind?" What are they to do, asks Mr. Sastri.

Resistance and refusal to collaborate may be death. And if collaboration involves death when the old ruler returns, the option that is available is between death at the hands of the enemy and death at the hands of the old ruler when he returns. It is a complete "reductio ad absurdum." Does the responsibility for the collaboration rest with the deserting ruler or the deserted population? The really guilty person is the runaway Government. And the innocent population is asked to pay the penalty.

The doctrine of allegiance certainly requires to be reviewed. That collaboration should not be a crime is rightly recognised in the Indian trials and Mr. Sastri has no hesitation in urging that the same rules should be got laid down for the trials in Malaya.

If this suggestion, an eminently just in itself, and recognised to be so even by the Government is accepted, the question of the punishment of death for collaboration will not arise.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Hitler's Will

GENERAL Lucian Truscott, Commander of the Third United States Army, stated that Adolf Hitler's will consisting of four separate documents has been found in a country house.

Hitler's will was dated April 15, 1945 and was witnessed by Goebbels, Bormann, Hans Krebs and Wilhelm Bugdorf.

The original marriage contract between Hitler and Eva Braun, witnessed by Bormann and Goebbels was also found.

The personal will of Hitler starts with the desire that he and his wife be buried in the Chancellery. 'We have chosen death to escape the disgrace of being forced to resign or surrender,' Hitler says.

General Truscott said that some portions of the will could not be revealed at present. He, however, did reveal that Hitler tried to lay the blame for the war on England and International Jewry.

Dutch Offer to Indonesia

The lines of settlement which the Lieutenant Governor General of the Netherlands East Indies, Dr. Van Mook, will propose to the Indonesian leaders on his return to Batavia, have been fully discussed with and approved by the Dutch Government.

This was made clear during a Press Conference held by Dr. Van Mook in London after conversations with British Cabinet Ministers on Indonesian questions.

Dr. Van Mook said that he was optimistic that the Indonesian leaders will feel able to accept the offer which he would be in a position to make when he returns to Batavia in the near future. He made it clear that as a result of his discussion in The Hague, the proposals which he had put forward in his contacts with the Indonesians in November have been modified. While no details of the latest Dutch plans are yet available, it

seems probable that a single constitution will be offered to the Netherlands East Indies as a whole in which various islands may be linked with Holland on a Commonwealth basis.

The aim of the new proposals will be to give the Netherlands East Indies' population full internal control of the management of local affairs, while defence and foreign policy and other more general aspects of the Government will be shared with the administration in The Hague.

Dr. Van Mook said that he hoped that complete internal self control might be achieved in one generation.

Moscow Conference Decisions

The establishment of a United Nations commission for the control of Atomic energy and reorganization of the present system of control of Japan by the establishment of a far eastern commission to replace the far east advisory commission and the setting up of an allied council for Japan are among the main decisions announced in a 5,000 word 'communique' issued in London, Moscow and Washington on the conclusion of the big three foreign Ministers' conference.

The 'communique' also announces details of arrangements agreed upon, aimed at facilitating recognition of the Rumanian and Bulgarian Governments by the United States and Britain and the decision to establish Korea as an independent State.

The 'communique' is divided into eight parts, the last of which deals with the Atomic Energy Control Commission. It states that Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom have agreed to invite other members of the Security Council—France and China—together with Canada to sponsor the resolution to establish the Commission at the first session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in January 1946.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY 'SHORT NOTICES' APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

POVERTY AND SOCIAL CHANGE By Tarlok Singh. Longman's Green & Co Rs 3.8.

The problem of mass poverty in India, its causes and cure and the economic basis of rural society constitute the main core of this lucid and well-documented book. The author has taken much pains not only to analyse the causes of poverty but has also evolved a framework of general ideas and principles which have a vital bearing on the crucial question of abolition of poverty. If plans of economic development are to be conceived wholly in the interest of the masses, then this book is a vital contribution to its solution. The author pleads for Industrialisation of India and suggests a system of joint village management suited to Indian conditions and points out the need for effective integration of rural and industrial economy which will make the village a major base in a modern industrial structure.

THE POST-WAR RUPEE Dr. V K R. V. Rao. Indian Council of World Affairs. Oxford University Press Re. 1.

In this essay on Prices and Exchange in India during the post-war period, Dr Rao, the eminent economist, traces the history of Indian currency from 1939 to 1945 and the policy pursued by the Government of India and advances arguments against devaluation of the rupee. He emphasises the desirability of maintaining the current ratio of 1sh. 6s. to the rupee in the immediate post-war period which is the same as its pre-war value and the need for an appropriate internal price policy.

THE LIFE OF MAXIM GORKY. By A. Roskin. The Socialist Literature, publishing Company, Agra. Re. 1.

Among the great literary giants of Russia, Maxim Gorky occupies an honoured place. More than any other writer in our epoch, his influence and impact on the Russian revolution were profound and lasting. It was Gorky who was the real father of the proletarian socialist literature both in Russia and in the eyes of the toilers throughout the world. In this remarkably written study by Roskin, we get an idea of the life and career of Gorky, the power and potency with which he used the written word in the service of man ceaselessly fighting against social tyranny, political oppression, and economic subjection. For, he knew that literature had a much loftier purpose and that this purpose was not to appease but to rouse a man's soul.

BACK TO SANITY A study in Human possibilities. By Y. G Krishnamurty.

Basur Brothers, Bandra, Bombay. Rs 5.8.
Mr Krishnamurty is a prolific writer and in the book under review he has attempted to place the Gandhian concept in the setting of latest western thought. It is enriched with a Preface from the pen of Dr. Rajendra Prasad and an Introduction by Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya.

A further attraction is the inclusion of over half a dozen colour plates of Gandhiji and other leaders.

WHY SINGAPORE FELL By General H. Gordon Bennett—Thacker & Co, Ltd., Bombay. Rs 7-14 0.

This book is bound to create more than the usual interest in view of the fact that the author, General H Gordon Bennett, formed the subject of a military enquiry for his having escaped from Malaya while he was commander of the Australian forces there.

The almost dramatic capture of Malaya and Singapore by the Japanese was really a shock to the whole Empire. According to the author, the defeat was due to several causes, all contributory but no one cause was in itself responsible. Singapore was not a fortress and the millions of pounds expended there were devoted mainly to the construction of a naval base. Even if defences had been constructed and fully manned, Singapore could not have been considered secure. It is the quality of the men manning the defences and the equipment they possess that govern the strength of a modern fortress.

Malaya had insufficient 'quality troops' and inadequate air support to defend itself. Most units were not trained for a jungle war and the morale of several was very low. The General avers that had the troops fought well at the outset, the Japanese would never have travelled the six hundred mile road through jungle and plantation in the short period of eight weeks. "Generally speaking, the leaders of too many units were lacking in determination and pugnacity."

Another strong reason for the failure, according to Genl. Bennett, was "our rigid adherence to text-book tactical methods." Jungle warfare introduced unusual situations which required unusual counter-measures. The text-books were written on 'experience' obtained in Europe and North Africa and while the general principles applied to all classes of warfare, the tactical methods were to a great extent not applicable to jungle warfare.

Gen Bennett is an attractive writer and his narrative will certainly serve "as an illuminating historical record of great importance and much interest."

FOOD POLICY FOR INDIA: By S G Tiwari. Nandhishore & Bros, Benares. Re. 1

In this ably-written monograph, the author aims at presenting the problem of food supply to the teeming millions of India, which is not only a war-time problem but is of permanent importance and offers many valuable suggestions for its solution. He emphasises the vital necessity for a long-range food policy in India and points out the essential principles which should be followed by the Government for the supply of a 'balanced diet' to every inhabitant of this vast semi-starved country.

BOOKS RECEIVED

SO FREEDOM CAME By Joan Wells Thacker & Co, Ltd, Bombay. Rs. 5 1s.

KASTURBA. Published by Manasdas Banerji, Handmade Paper Industries of India 1, Gokul Baral Street, Calcutta.

INDIA'S STRIPPING BALANCE, By B. T. Randine Peoples Publishing House, Bombay.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU By M. N. Roy, Modern Age Publications, Navsari Chambers, Outram Road, Fort, Bombay.

U.S.S.R. The story of Soviet Russia By Walter Duranty, Hucker & Co, Bombay.

SARDAR PATEL THE MAN OF FEW WORDS By M. Singh, M.A., Associated Publications, P. B. 53 Lahore.

CHINDIT COLUMN 76. By W. A. Wilcox, Longmans Green & Co. Ltd Madras.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND OUR POVERTY. By J. C. Kumarappa, Foreword by M. K. Gandhi, Navjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad.

TIRU SPEAKE VIVEKANANDA, Sri Rama Krishna Math, Mysapore 8 as.

UPAYUKTA VIDYA (in Telugu) A brochure on Education and its proper aims. By Yellapantula Jagannathan. Foreword by Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Venkataranga & Co, Bezawada.

MAKING A SINGLE FAMILY. By Muhammad Ali Nawaz, RA The Islamic Library, Dacca and 15, College Square, Calcutta.

A HUMA YOGA. By Prof Indira, M.A. The Minerva Bookshop, Lahore.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Dec. 1. Central Assembly Elections.

—Secunderabad restored to the Nizam
Gandhiji meets Mr. Casey in Calcutta.

Dec. 2. Australian services Cricket team
contesting Madras at Chepauk.

Dec. 3 Congress triumphs in Central
Assembly Elections Murderous attack on
Mr. S. S. Sanyal

Dec. 4. Secretary of State announces
Parliamentary delegation to India.

Dec. 5 Final Anglo-American agreement
reached on 4400 million dollars loan.

Dec. 6 Tory censure motion in the
Commons defeated by 381 votes to 197.

—Congress Working Committee meets at
Calcutta.

Dec. 7. Mr. Casey, Governor of Bengal
meets Azad, Congress President, and
other leaders.

Dec. 8 Working Committee decides to
depute Pandit Nehru to Burma and Malaya.

Dec. 9. Death of Mr. Kalinath Roy,
Editor, The Tribune of Lahore, at
Calcutta.

—Congress Working committee deputed
Mr. Asaf Ali to settle Tamilnad dispute.

Dec. 10 Viceroy opens meeting of
Associated Chambers.

—Gandhi-Viceroy meeting at Calcutta.

Dec. 11. Congress Working Committee
defines attitude to I. N. A. and reaffirms
faith in non-violence.

Dec. 12. Commons resolution on Anglo-
American loan agreement.

Dec. 13. Commons debate on Indonesia.

Dec. 14. Congress Medical Mission to
Malaya,

—Dr. Van Mook meets Indonesians.

Dec. 15 Death of Sir William Marris,
former Reforms Commissioner.

—M. P. demand dropping of I.N.A. trials.

Dec. 16 Mr. Sarat Bose elected to the
Central Assembly.

—Prince Konoye commits suicide.

—"Big three" Foreign Ministers meet in
Moscow.

Dec. 17. Surrender of Persian Army
Garrison in Tabriz to rebel forces.

Dec. 18. Mr. Asaf Ali of the Congress
Working Committee arrives in Madras.

—Lords debate on U. S. Loan.

Dec. 19. A. M. M. Vallayan Chettiar,
Burma Indian leader, shot dead.

Dec. 20. Britain takes over control of
Ruhr Coal mines.

—Anglo U. S. talks on Siam.

Dec. 21. Travancore bans League Con-
ference. Gen. Patton dies at Frankfurt.

Dec. 22. Chinese communists seek armistice.
Bhopal ruler re-elected Chancellor.

Dec. 23 Mr. Asaf Ali's findings on
Trunchengode election dispute published.

Dec. 24 The Big Three issue a Christmas
message to the world and decide to
hold Peace Conference on May 1.

Dec. 25 Pact concluded with China and
Britain Indo-China to be completely
under French Control

Dec. 26 South India Industrial and
Commercial Conference meets at Madras
Sir M. Visveswaraya presiding.

Dec. 27. Lord Keynes dead

—Sapru Committee proposals published
British paratroops "sit down strike" in
Java.

Dec. 28. All India Educational Conference
meets in Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswami
Iyer presiding.

—All India Women's Conference meets in
Hyderabad.

Dec. 29 Lord Wavell visits Andamans.

Dec. 30 Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar
opens Political Science Congress at
Chidambaram.

Dec. 31. Mr. Attlee meets visiting M. P.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE HINDU MUSLIM PROBLEM

Mr Sachin Sen, writing in the *Visvabharati Quarterly* draws attention to Tagore's analysis of Hindu Muslim relations. India, the meeting ground of various races can hardly afford to breed conflict.

"Peace is true and not conflict, Love is true and not hatred; and Truth is the One, not the disjointed multitude"—this sums up the contents of Rabindranath Tagore's religion, his approach to life and to life's problems. No one was more anxious to proclaim that there was need for happy understanding between man and man and that there was need for unity based on this happy understanding. Ancient India prayed for real unity, not a parody of unity manufactured in the political or social machine. That prayer must be uttered to day not in a full throated voice but in thought and action, that prayer for unity should cleanse our minds, remove all weaknesses that stand in the way. It is the basic postulate of Tagore's philosophy that if there is a deviation from the right conduct of life in man's work for his own self or for the family or for the country, God will not forgive him. We shall have to atone for all the misdeeds even if they are resorted to to achieve a noble end. The doctrine of the end justifying the means makes no appeal to Tagore. There is no shortcut to noble work. That was why Rabindranath Tagore treated the Hindu-Muslim problem as essentially one to be solved mainly by our own efforts and principally through mutual understanding. The problem in his view, touches on the weaknesses of our psychological make up and social organisation.

SMALL NATIONS AND BIG POWERS

Apologists of imperialism are never tired of contending that world unity and world peace demand the subjugation of the small nations. Mr R M Fox, challenges this contention in a vigorous article in the *Aryan Path*. He argues

"But no man of sense or logic can show that small nations are—or ever were—a menace to world peace. It is invariably the Big Powers that threaten world peace because they are dazzled with the prospect of conquest. Small nations are always in favour of international safeguards. The League of Nations was not shattered because of any assertion of national sovereignty by small nations. It was broken because the small nations found they could not rely on Big Powers in that Assembly to use their strength against acts of aggression aimed at weaker peoples."

National sovereignty will contribute to handicap imperialist expansion. Small nations will make a stand against oppression and will respect the freedom of other nations.

"Those democrats who have allowed themselves to be goaded into attacking the sovereignty of small nations are guilty of a great stupidity for their enemies are plainly these big anti-social forces such as manipulated and financed dictators of the Hitler and Mussolini type. It is childish to imagine that small nations can start wars."

Even the bitterest critic of de Valera does not charge him with that. But small nations will continue to demand the right to safeguard their interests in times of crisis.

"That is precisely the essence of which de Valera was guilty during the war. He did not help to crush the Nazis in a military sense. But he stood for the freedom of small nations—an anti-Nazi principle which is still important for the world."

JAPANESE WOMEN

Mr. Karl Eskelund in the course of an article to the *Leader Magazine* on Japanese Women observes that submissiveness is the greatest weakness of Japanese women. But educated Japanese women are more logical: their power of reasoning has not been weakened by any supernatural belief in Japan's divine right. Japanese women would never dare discuss politics in public. But, in private conversations, nine out of ten would condemn the war. They hated the martial spirit which changed their men and sons into swaggering bullies—a spirit which automatically permeates anyone who has gone through Japan's rigid and brutal military training.

Japanese women never rebel—that is their great weakness—but a surprising number resent the treatment they have to endure. When they get a chance to talk to a trusted foreigner, they surprisingly respond; in fact they are nearly always ready to throw themselves into his arms. Japanese women married to foreigners are socially ostracised; but they are invariably envied by their less fortunate sisters. Almost any modern Japanese girl, whether geisha or college graduate, prefers the company of a foreigner to that of a Japanese. It doesn't matter whether he is British, American or Chinese—so long as he isn't Japanese.

Even the smallest courtesy pleases a Japanese woman. Hence the Japanese man bitterly resents the presence of foreigners who, he claims, "spoil" the women.

Speaking about Japanese marriage the writer points out: A Japanese woman can't hope to find a husband unless she contributes a substantial dowry. If she has

none, her husband-to-be agrees for her to work at a geisha house or a factory until she earns one. If the head of a Japanese family has financial troubles, his first resort usually is to hire out one of his daughters for a time. Then the girl is virtually a slave of her employers. If she runs away, the police are put on her track, and her future husband may break the contract.

EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION FOR INDIA

Writing on Post-War educational reconstruction in India, Prof. P. C. Malhotra points out in the course of an article in the *New Review*:

"Liquidation of illiteracy is our front rank problem. All progress in whatever direction we may look for is found to shatter on the bedrock of illiteracy. The proportion of illiterate to illiterate population in India is the same as that of illiterate to literate in most of the progressive countries of the world. Nations with a will to abolish illiteracy have been able to do so in two decades or so. In India the will to liquidate illiteracy has not been earnest and the lack of funds or administrative difficulties or the magnitude of the problem have provided handy pretexts for a do-nothing or a ca-canny policy."

What should be the ideal of educational planning? The old idea that the primary and middle schools are only preparatory stages for the high schools and the high schools for the university classes has now been found wanting.

"According to the Sargent Report each stage of school education is to be regarded

as complete in itself, in the sense that it will fit the pupil on leaving school for entering life. In the high school stage, two types of school are advocated, first the high school which will prepare students for the university course of study and the second, the technical school which will equip students for either undertaking proper jobs or to qualify for a higher place by pursuing further specialised training. Even the basic schools in their primary and senior grades will attempt to fit the pupil better for some vocation than the present schools have hitherto cared to do. Research and technical attainments of a higher order in our University courses of study are also provided for in the Sargent scheme."

With regard to the propagation of literacy the old maxim 'educate the classes and the masses will look after themselves' stands discredited. This theory of spreading education through filtration must be replaced, he says, by the theory of disseminating education through mass contracts.

"A proper system of education should give vision, provision and prevision. The cultural, the material, the utilitarian and the creative aspects of education must be knit as integral parts into the organic whole that education is to become. If education is properly reconstructed, the nation can be made to pulsate with a new life. It will be prepared to grasp opportunities for national uplift and development which are expected to abound in the post war period. Without such a preparation, an all round national growth will remain an unrealised dream and whatever national progress takes place will truly remain cramped, stunted and arrested.

INDIAN TROOPS IN JAVA

Prof Harold Laski, Chairman of the British Labour Party, writing in *Reynolds News* severely criticises the use of Indian troops in Java and Indo China.

In an article under the heading "This Java war is not our business" Prof Laski says he does not wonder that the use of these troops has 'provoked an angry outburst of criticism from India.

'We stand there face to face with a nation which whatever its divisions is at least agreed on demanding its own freedom, and its right to Self Government. We are committed, half heartedly perhaps, but still committed to the duty of making that freedom and Self Government available to India with the least possible delay.

'I submit it is not good advertisement of the sincerity of our intentions to use the troops of a nation aspiring to freedom to crush the aspirations of two other groups of people with the same aspiration."

Commenting that it is tragic 'to see British 'restoring law and order' in French Indo China and the Dutch East Indies. Prof Laski says 'No one can quarrel for an instant with the humane purpose of evacuating to safety prisoners—European or other—of Japanese occupation.

"But it is difficult to believe that this could not have been accomplished by negotiation with the leaders of the nationalist movements in both territories.

What we are doing is the very different thing of making the process of evacuation the bridge by which the French and the Dutch can return to relentless exploitation.

of many million peoples And one who looks at the economic pattern of Indonesian life can see that the sole Dutch pre-occupation in Indonesia was for profit. This view is reinforced by differences which have emerged between Dr. Van Mook, in Batavia, and the Dutch Government at the Hague.

"What may appear to us as no more than an enlarged police operation is to the peoples concerned destruction of hope—return to virtual bondage in which they merely exchange a ruthless oriental master for a ruthless European. It makes the British claim to have been engaged in war for democracy and freedom seem hollow mockery all over South-East Asia.

"I should have thought we had earned enough illwill in Rhodesia and Kenya, and the rest of our own imperial slums without adding to it by what—objectively—is making possible no more than the maintenance of slums in other Empires.

"Most people will have noted the care with which both Russia and China have stood apart from our policy. Both of them know from grim experience what is meant by intervention for the sake of restoring law and order."

THE PRESS IN PARIS

While France still awaits its Press clean-up, prewar abuses flourish again, observes the *News Review*

"Frenchmen under the Nazi occupation were promised many things by General Charles de Gaulle and his National Liberation Committee. Among them; a clean-up of the Press.

But last month de Gaulle's promised Press-purge was still a dream. In Paris alone there were 35 morning newspapers, none with a circulation of more than 450,000, some with only 20,000. One such organ was selling only 30 per cent. of its print. Another had 40 per cent. returned copies, although launched at a cost of 6,000,000 francs. No honest journal could carry on in face of such crippling losses. The days of blackmail and tie-ups were back with a bang.

A postwar racket had been added to the old abuses: many journals were selling their newsprint on the black market. All news sheets in France start with a presumed circulation of 190,000 copies daily. The French Ministry of Information allows a 12 per cent. margin for returns (unsold copies) If returns exceed this figure, the newsprint quota is cut, the difference going to other newspapers with small or non-existent returns."

THE INDIAN HOME

The Ninth Anniversary issue of the *Indian Home* has just been published. Now rehabilitated and enlarged to cover every conceivable subject of interest to the father, the mother and the child, the Magazine is a bumper number containing constructive articles like "Saving in the Home, the Need for Insurance, Gardening, Beauty, Fashion, Cookery, Health and Hygiene, Indian Music, Dancing, several interesting Short Stories, Home Education and the Circle for tiny tots. There is something of particular interest to every reader.

The *Indian Home* English edition is edited and published by Mr. Mohan, V. Raj, M.A., B.Sc. (Minn) and B. K. Karanjia, B.A. (Hons) for Indian Home Publications Ltd., Bombay.

The Magazine deserves congratulation on its very laudable objects.

INDIAN STATES

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Mysore

KRISHNARAJASAGAR RESERVOIR

The Krishnarajasagar reservoir on the Cauvery river, nine miles north west of Mysore City, is the source of all the electric power now generated in the State, and utilised by various industries. It also supplies the water for the irrigation schemes. Two great needs are thus met—increased electric power and increased food production.

The lake is formed by the construction of a masonry dam, 8600 feet long and 130 feet high above the river bed, and 140 feet above the deepest foundation where the bed width of the dam is 111 feet. The width of roadway at the top is 14½ feet. The full reservoir water level is 124 feet above bed level and storage capacity is 43,934 m.cft, above the sill of the irrigation supply sluices, which are 60 feet above bed level. The total capacity is 48,335 m.cft.

THE MYSORE SPUN SILK MILLS

The establishment of the Mills and Filature has resulted in the employment of about 2,000 operatives and about 2,500 families are indirectly employed in cultivation of raw materials, weaving of spun silk and reel yarns cocoons and other allied industries. Prior to the war India used to import nearly two million pounds of spun silk and about a million pounds of reel yarn and two million pounds of raw silk per annum. The Factory is now producing about a tenth of the quantity of spun silk and reel yarns consumed in India and is capable of further expansion so as to produce the whole of the requirements of the country.

RECRUITING IN MYSORE

The recruiting operations in Mysore in connection with the present war may be said to have yielded good results, as compared with the last Great War. As against 1,590 recruits who volunteered for service in the Mysore Army in the Great War 6,280 have already come forward up to date and the number actually enlisted after medical examination is 3,749.

Travancore

RECONSTRUCTION OF TRAVANCORE

Revitalisation of agriculture with a view to augmenting the food resources of the States was the foremost aim of Travancore and Cochin, said Mr. G. Parameeswaram Pillai, Reconstruction Officer, Government of Travancore, in a broadcast recently. He added, "Notwithstanding the programme to increase the area under cultivation by reclamation of backwaters and by throwing open for cultivation suitable lands out of the reserve forests in Travancore and Cochin State—no tangible results can be achieved without the introduction of intensive and improved methods of production and the extension of irrigation facilities."

The Travancore Fertilisers and Chemicals started with a capital of Rs. 3 crores is making good progress in the installation of plant and machinery for the production of 50,000 tons of ammonium sulphate.

A sum of nearly one crore of rupees has been set apart by the Travancore Government for the construction of the Perumchani Reservoir and for raising the level of the Kodayar reservoir and for the restoration and improvement of major irrigation tanks.

The Travancore Government have already initiated a five year programme of development of the Pallivasal hydro electric project costing over Rs. 3 crores.

THE DEWAN ON GANDHIJI

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore performed on December 14 the opening ceremony of a Textile Factory near Tiruvandipur and said, "But for the great lesson given by Mahatma Gandhi at a critical stage in the industrial history of India and the new impulse he gave to hand spinning and hand weaving the poverty of India would have been much more accentuated and the sufferings of the people much more intense than they have been."

Hyderabad

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

Nawab Moin Nawab Jung, Political and Publicity Secretary to the Hyderabad Government, told an Associated Press of India correspondent that the Hyderabad Government has decided to send an industrial delegation to the United Kingdom and the United States to establish contacts with industrialists and businessmen in those countries and make arrangements for the purchase of plants and machinery, as a first step towards the industrial development of the State in the immediate future.

Nawab Moin Nawab Jung explained that the State Government had decided to launch big industrial projects in the Godavari area, where there were possibilities of generating Hydro-electric power on an extensive scale and where coal, iron ore and lime stone were available in abundance. What was proposed was to establish an industrial town—the first of the kind in India—in this area by setting up a number of mills and factories. The industries intended to be developed in the region include iron and steel, coal-carbonisation and its by-products, cement, textiles, vegetable oil, rayon, etc. It was estimated that the various schemes for the industrial development of the State would cost something like Rs 250 crores in the first ten years of their operation.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Organised marketing of agricultural produce is still in its infancy in India, although it has received a great impetus from the peculiar conditions created by war. It is to the credit of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government that they were first in the field and their initiative in the matter paved the way for the rest of India to experiment with measures for the organised marketing of agricultural produce. That it proved of immense benefit to the cultivator and also helped in the successful administration of food laws, especially during the latter part of the World War II, cannot be denied.

Cochin

WIDER FRANCHISE

In commemoration of his 80th birthday, His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin has ordered the appointment of a Franchise Committee to consider the extension of the present franchise qualifications for election to the Legislative Council.

Other gifts announced by the Ruler on the occasion include: payment of honarium to non-official Members of the Legislative Council with effect from the next Malayalam Year; the setting apart of Rs 3 lakhs, to start with, for opening courses of technological studies in the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the allotment of Rs. 1 lakh to aid the publication of old Sanskrit manuscripts and the raising of the pay of the primary school teachers.

Gwalior

MEDICAL COLLEGE

The foundation stone of the Gajra Raja Medical College, Gwalior, was laid by His Excellency Lord Wavell in the presence of a number of State Sardars, officials and prominent citizens recently.

With an allotment of Rs. 20 lakhs for building and equipment and a recurring grant of Rs four lakhs, the Gajra Raja Medical College will be the first of its kind in Central India and according to plan, will be one of the foremost amongst the medical colleges in India.

Khairagarh

REFORMS FOR KHAIRAGARH STATE

The Raja Bahadur of Khairagarh has introduced a number of constitutional reforms in his State. These include the setting up of a Council of Ministers, one of whom is a non-official. It has also been decided to set up a Legislative Council, known as the 'Rajya Sabha' consisting of elected, and nominated members. The Sabha will be inaugurated in April next.

Bhopal**MINERAL RESOURCES**

A plea for the nationalisation of the vast mineral resources of India was made by Dr Sir Cyril Fox, the well known geologist and lately Director of the Geological Survey of India, in an interview.

The development of these resources, he added, could be entrusted to private enterprise under Government control.

Dr Fox said that the aim in exploitation must be to turn out the processed product as far as possible. A number of gold research stations should be opened throughout India with strong Government backing whose job it should be to investigate new processes. While in Europe and America efforts have been made on the principle of discovering the process for the mineral ore, in India it has generally been the reverse.

Rewa**RESPONSIBLE GOVT FOR REWA**

In the course of a message issued by H H the Maharaja of Rewa State thanking all who 'ad sent him felicitations on the announcement of Responsible Government for the State, the Ruler, explaining the announcement states that the basis of the Proclamation was, "adult franchise, common electorate and no weightage or special representation" and has invited the co-operation of all in the fulfilment of these conditions.

Aundh**COLONY FOR STATE PRISONERS**

The Aundh State proposes to build a colony for State prisoners to be known as "Swatantrapur".

Huts will be built for the prisoners and their families to stay together and full scope will be given to the prisoners to develop their individuality and abilities. It is hoped to teach the prisoners some handicraft that will help them in maintaining themselves and to see that they cultivate good moral habits.

Baroda**INDIAN STATES AND FEDERATION SCHEME**

Zonal grouping of the Indian States for purposes of the future constitution of India was suggested by Sir Brjendra Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, in an interview to the Associated Press of India recently.

Discussing the position of the Indian States in the proposed Constitutional Assembly Sir Brjendra pointed out that Baroda State had always been in favour of a federation. The idea of a strong centre and autonomous units he said had emanated from his late Highness, Sri Sayaji Rao, long before the Round Table Conference. But to have an effective federation scheme working the small states of India should be grouped together. Sir Brjendra was in favour of zonal groupings which could send their representatives to any central body.

General**THE PRINCES' ROLE**

"We are fully alive to the need of adjusting ourselves to the exigencies of changing times," says H H the Nawab of Bhopal, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes, in a foreword to the first number of *Indian India*, a monthly magazine published by the Directorate of Public Relations of the Chamber.

"We consider it our proud privilege to extend our help and co-operation in raising India to her rightful place in the comity of Nations," he proceeded. "We are also not unmindful of the fact that the future of Indian States is inextricably linked up with the constitutional and industrial progress of the rest of India. Though determined to maintain our distinct identity, we are prepared to collaborate wholeheartedly with British India in all matters of common concern. Success in this direction requires mutual goodwill and tolerance."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Malaya

PLIGHT OF INDIANS

A four thousand word report on the condition of Indians in Malaya has been submitted recently to the Government of India by Mr S. K. Chettur, India's Agent in Malaya. He had also discussions with the Commonwealth Relations Department. The Government's decision on the recommendations is expected shortly.

The report it is understood, embodies recommendations with regard to treatment of Indians in Malaya who were arrested for alleged collaboration with the enemy, questions of priority passages for those desirous of returning to India and giving help and assistance to those in distress.

PANDIT KUNZRU & RAO'S MISSION

The Government of India have decided to send Pandit H. N. Kunzru and Mr. P. Kodanda Rao to Malaya to advise the Government of India Representative there and the Indian community as regards relief measures, and have also decided to provide legal assistance from India to Indians in Malaya who need such assistance.

Siam

INDIANS IN SIAM

Mr M. S. Aney, Government of India Representative in Ceylon, will be shortly flying to Singapore to represent the Government of India as special envoy at the peace treaty negotiations with the Government of Siam.

Mr Aney will represent the Government of India, to obtain first-hand information about Indian Nationals in Siam as well as certain Indian prisoners of war. Before the war it was estimated that 100,000 Indian traders and labourers were in Siam, but little has been heard, since the outbreak of the war, regarding their welfare and conditions during and after the war.

S. Africa

NATAL HOUSING ORDINANCE

"We reiterate our fears that the object of the Natal Housing Ordinance—to bring about the eventual segregation of the Indian people—may yet be achieved" says a reply by the Natal Indian Congress to the statement on the Ordinance made recently by Prime Minister Smuts.

"It is the considered opinion of the executive of the Natal Indian Congress", the statement continues "that the only safeguard available against unjust and racial discrimination is franchise. We shall, therefore, press, with renewed vigour, for extension of the Provincial and Municipal vote to Indians to ensure just and equal treatment by provincial and local authorities. The presence of Indian voters in any ward is the only guarantee that Indian interests and views will be fairly considered."

The Government's policy goes a considerable way in assuring us that the present acute housing shortage is not to be the vehicle for carrying out long-cherished plans for segregation.

Ceylon

SOULBURY REPORT

Commenting on the Soulbury Commission's proposals for Ceylon, Dr. Syed Mahmud, former Member, Congress Working Committee, who recently visited Ceylon, said: "The Ceylonese people asked for bread and have been given stone instead. They were full of hope and expected that the Soulbury Commission would recommend a declaration of immediate Dominion Status for them."

"The hopes," Dr. Mahmud adds, "of Ceylonese leaders were raised by the accession of the Labour Government to power. It has been abundantly proved that the Labour Government are the true successors of their predecessors in office so far as colonial policy is concerned."

Dr. Mahmud advises the Ceylonese leaders to settle the questions of Indian Labour, franchise, citizenship and immigration.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS † DEPARTMENTAL † NOTES

Questions of Importance

BRITISH DELEGATION TO INDIA

The Speaker of the House of Commons has nominated eight members of the Parliamentary delegation to tour India.

They include one woman, Mrs M Wallhead Nichol (Labour Bradford North).

Four other Labour members are

Mr R Richards (Wrexham)

Mr R. W. Sorensen (West Leyton)

Major M Wyatt (Aston)

Mr A G Bottomley (Chatham)

There are two Conservatives, Mr Godfrey Nicholson (Farnham) who is a member of the Conservative India Committee and Brigadier A R W Low (Blackpool North) and Liberal Mr Hopkin Morris (Carmarthen). Mr Richards who was Under Secretary for India in the first Labour Government, will lead the delegation.

Lord Munster, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for India and Burma and Lord Chotley, former Deputy Regional Commissioner for Civil Defence, have accepted the Lord Chancellor's invitation to be members of the Delegation.

The British Labour Government it is understood, will place no restrictions of any kind upon the freedom of the All-Party Delegation.

GOVT. OF INDIA AND BRETTON WOODS PACT

Following the announcement of the Government of India's decision to adhere to the Bretton Woods Agreement, an Ordinance known as the International Monetary Fund and Bank Ordinance has been issued. It provides among other things for the payment out of central revenues of subscriptions to the International Fund and to the International Bank.

SAPRU COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

The Committee stands for a single Union of India including the whole of British India and all the Indian States, the claim for secession or non-accession, by which individual Provinces or States can keep out of the Union is not accepted," says the Sapru Committee in its final report on constitutional proposals. The report which was compiled by the Rt Hon Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, the Rt Hon M R Jayakar, the Hon Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar and Kunwar Sir Jyoti Prasad has now been released to the Press.

Embodying this principle in its proposals, the Committee recommends that the Constitution making Body to be appointed after the elections should proceed on the basis of framing a constitution for a single State, and urges that the right of secession or non-accession given to individual States or Provinces in the Cripps proposals should be withdrawn.

The Committee maintains that though out it has endeavoured to make a constructive approach to the many knotty problems that confront the country, to investigate them from every angle, to appraise as dispassionately as they could every fact, circumstance or conceivable argument and to reach conclusions which in their estimation were calculated to promote the lasting interests of India and were likely to elicit the approbation of thinking Indians.

The Committee has recommended that separate communal electorates should disappear and should be replaced by joint general electorates with reservation of seats. Sir H P Mody and Dr John Matthai have appended a separate note.

Utterances of the Day

VICEROY'S-CALCUTTA SPEECH

"I can assure you unreservedly that the British Government and the British people honestly and sincerely wish the Indian people to have their political freedom and a Government, or Governments, of their own choice," said Lord Wavell addressing the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta on December 10. "But there are certain elements of the problem which we must recognise," he added. "It is not a simple problem; it cannot and will not be solved by repeating a password or formula. 'Quit India' will not act as the magic 'sesame' which opened Ali Baba's cave. It cannot and will not be solved by violence. Disorder and violence are in fact the one thing that may check the pace of India's progress."

There are various parties to the settlement he continued, "who must somehow or other reach a measure of agreement amongst themselves—Congress, the largest political party in India; the minorities, of whom the Muslims are the most numerous and most important; the Rulers of Indian States; and the British Government."

PANDIT NEHRU ON CONSTITUTION OF FREE INDIA

"India to-day is like a volcano. It may burst at any moment," said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, addressing a large gathering of students at Shillong. Pandit Jawaharlal added:

"If a proper approach is made looking to Independence by the British Government, we shall take it. Nobody likes a conflict. It involves enormous suffering, but it is equally certain that, if there is delay or postponement of the issue of Independence, or if any other obstacle is put in the way, we shall take the initiative and we shall go ahead, whatever the consequences."

Pandit Nehru said that Free India would be a Federation of willing units, which would possess absolute autonomy for development and growth according to their own culture and way of life.

"We are on the verge of independence, but I cannot fix a date when it will come, I can only

say that India is bound to be independent and that too very soon. We will have to face problems not only of making a constitution for a Free India, but also we shall have to decide—and it is the most important problem—what outlook we should cultivate in our people to face world problems."

You cannot isolate a country and live apart from the other countries of the world. We talk in terms of Independence and Democracy. We want Independence, but Independence does not mean isolation. To day in the world not even the biggest countries can afford to live isolated. We are to be one of the members of the world community but that would be on equal terms. We are not going to submit to any other nation. As an independent nation, we shall join the world community and also seek a solution of the world problems in co-operation with other nations."

FRANK ANTHONY ON FUTURE OF ANGLO INDIANS

Mr. Frank Anthony, President of the Anglo-Indian and Dominated European Association, addressing the Karachi Branch on his arrival from the United Kingdom, outlined the policy of his community in the light of the recent political development and said: "The fate of this country is set inevitably on the road to Self-Government. You have in England to-day a Labour Government which from my recent contact, I am convinced, is ardent in its desire to see that India gets Self-Government at the very earliest moment possible. That is the issue which we must accept and welcome—a self-governing united India. . . ."

"I urge upon the community a certain reorientation. Some Anglo-Indian schools are anti-Indian hot beds. They taught some of us to look away from India. I have raised my hands against such attitude. We must live, work and die, as one of the communities in India. If we are going to adopt friendship and loyalty to other communities in India, we will have deep and lasting friendship."

Surveying the role played by the Anglo-Indian community in the life of the country, Mr. Frank Anthony said: "We fill the gap between the Britishers and Indians. Because of the mixture of blood, we have potentialities which other communities lack. We should be proud of our stock and of Indian blood."

SWEEPING REFORMS IN N W F P

The Frontier Government is probably the first in India to provide all possible facilities to the political prisoners under the new rules for the classification of convicted and undertrial prisoners.

According to these rules, all persons detained in connection with or convicted of offences connected with political movements will be classified as political prisoners irrespective of the nature of proceedings taken against them or the provision of the law under which they are detained, prosecution or convicted, provided that the offence does not involve violence.

All such prisoners shall belong to one class only namely "political prisoners."

The political prisoners will be accommodated in association with each other but apart from other prisoners, as far as possible.

Separate enclosures in jail may be allotted to political prisoners but they shall not ordinarily be kicked up in barracks at night.

In addition to books from the jail library each prisoner may have at one time from private sources, six books and daily newspapers by the approval of the Superintendent of Jail. They can also have their own radio sets.

Interviews shall be allowed fortnightly. Two letters shall be allowed to be sent fortnightly but they can receive any number of letters during that period. Facilities for writing books, etc. will also be provided.

Sets of cooking pots and utensils will be supplied. They will not be handcuffed or fettered by way of punishment and whipping shall not be inflicted in any case.

TAMILNAD ELECTION BOARD

Mr Asaf Ali member of the Congress Working Committee, who recently came to Madras to settle certain differences among Congressmen here sent the following telegram to Mr Kamaraj Nadar, President of the Tamilnad Provincial Congress Committee, Madras.

"Hope you met Rajaji the day following my departure as you promised me. Anxiously waiting result for submitting report to President Congress. Hoping amicable adjustment Election Board drawn from both parties. Please wire."

Following this Mr Nadar suggested the personnel of the Election Board for approval of the Sardar.

Sardar Vallabhai Patel has accepted on behalf of the Congress Central Parliamentary Board the proposal made by Mr Kamaraj Nadar, for the formation of the Tamilnad Provincial Election Board in consultation with Mr C Rajagopalachari.

The Board will consist of: Messrs, K Kamaraj Nadar, C N Muthuranga Mudaliar, O P Ramaswami Reddiar, T. S. Avinashalingam Chettiar Mrs. Rukmani Lakshminipathi, Messrs C P Subbiah V I Muniswami Pillai and N Annamalai Pillai.

CENTRAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Results of elections to the Central Assembly announced upto date show that out of 102 elected seats 97 have been filled, comprising 55 Congress 27 Muslim League 5 Independents 8 Europeans and 2 Akali Sikhs. All the 5 Independents are landholders.

According to present indications, the main opposition parties will be two, namely, the Congress and the Muslim League and the Nationalists who formed the third Opposition Party, will cease to exist in the New House.

Educational

SIR C. P. ON THE TASK BEFORE UNIVERSITIES

A warning that unless the universities and the wise men of the world re-educate mankind into a new culture and a new science of life, the human race might be overwhelmed by abysses such as World War II at the sight of which humanity was shuddering, was given by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, in his Convocation address at the Patna University on November 24. Sir C. P. said:

There was a period when educational reformers took it for granted that universal education would, by itself, make the world safe for liberty, equality and fraternity. In practice, such education has too often prepared the way for dictatorships and universal war.

"The lesson" said Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, "is obvious and has been forcibly punctuated" thus by Aldous Huxley:

"If one's goal is liberty or democracy, neither can be attained by the teaching of passive obedience and of bullying which are inseparable from militarism and by any education that is subordinated to such militarism and separatism. Our system of education, therefore, has to be completely and basically reorganised so as not only to be a preparation for a vocation but to bring about a new view of the future land of promise."

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY CONVOCAION

Addressing the graduates who took their Degrees at the Convocation of the Annamalai University on November 27, Sir Norman Strachey, I.C.S., Adviser to H.E. the Governor, observed that no great progress could be made in India unless the rich submitted to higher taxation. He would appeal to young men to do all they could to increase the wealth of the world. Young men should do and the notion that they must push others aside and strive after securing for themselves the biggest possible share in the world's goods. That would not bring them happiness.

The Convocation was held at the Sririvastava Hall. Mr. M. Raghavswami, Vice-Chancellor, presided.

PANDIT NEHRU ON NEED FOR TECHNICIANS

The lack of advanced technology was given as the reason for the downfall of India by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, delivering the Convocation address to the National Council of Education, Calcutta.

Pandit Nehru said India suffered a great setback during the last 200 years in the field of technology. A sort of prejudice against the study of scientific subjects gradually developed in the wake of foreign conquests until a stage was reached where "we lost all our creative faculty, and went on repeating age-worn customs and practices. Real vitality ebbed out of our lives, and our minds became a sort of closed field against anything new."

Pandit Nehru emphasised India had to make good her arrested progress and growth rapidly. Thousands of technicians were required for this stupendous task.

MR PANIKKAR ON THE ESSENCE OF POLITICAL FREEDOM

"Political freedom is undoubtedly the first necessary for a people. But its essence—both its winning and its maintenance—lies not so much in the forms of government but in the creation of a spirit of national discipline, efficiency and toleration, that is, a broad based culture in its widest sense", observed Mr. K. M. Panikkar, Prime Minister, Bikaner, in the course of his Convocation address to the graduates of the Andhra University at Guntur on December 6.

"The task of the next generation in India is pre-eminently one of creating a modern society; of creating a new social dynamics, which will enable this country to break through the manacles of leaden thought and move forward with giant strides."

DRAMATIC TURN IN I.N.A TRIAL

The General Court Martial has heard Mr Bhulabhai Desai's arguments in defence of the officers and men of the I.N.A. as also Mr Engineer's plea for the prosecution. The irresistible logic with which Mr. Desai built up the defence case raised issues which are not of the normal type that a Court Martial is called upon to decide. "What is on trial before the Court now is the right to wage war with impunity on the part of a subject race for their liberation," said Mr Bhulabhai Desai opening the defence argument before the General Court Martial trying Capt Shah Nawaz, Capt Sahgal and Leut Dhillon of the Azad Hind Fauj. "I shall be able to cite accepted authorities on international law," he said, "that a nation or a part of a nation does reach a stage where it is entitled to wage war for its liberation."

The extraordinary aspect of the trial is that both the prosecution and the defence agree that war has been waged the former contending that it was against the King and the latter arguing that it was for India's liberation.

There was a sensational ending in the Court Martial trial to the argument of the Advocate-General, who said: "In conclusion, I submit that all the charges against all the accused have been proved beyond any reasonable doubt. There is no defence in law to the charges against the accused."

"There is, however, a good deal of evidence to the effect that what the accused did was done by them not with any mercenary motive but in cause of what the accused 'bona fide' considered to be a patriotic motive by a sense, whether wise or misguided, of doing service to the country. This, while not affording any defence to the accused in law, may legitimately be taken into consideration on the question of punishment if the court finds on the charges are against the accused."

SECTION 93 RULE

Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Iyer, former Advocate General of Madras in the course of an article to the *Hindu* makes a strong plea for the termination of Section 93 rule and restoration of normal constitutional government.

He says "It is unreasonable to expect a Government functioning under Section 93 to undertake the solution of the complex economic problems confronting the country or to embark upon a genuine or effective work of reconstruction, as obviously there can be no guarantee that future popular governments would continue the policy or even work on the materials furnished by it."

Discussing the two alternatives, Sir Alladi says "One easy and obvious step is to rescind immediately the proclamation under Sec 93 to hold bye elections in respect of the seats that have fallen vacant since Oct 1939 on the basis of existing electoral rolls."

"The other course suggested is for the Governor to dissolve the Assembly immediately and to undertake a detailed and complete revision of the electoral roll. This procedure necessarily involves the perpetuation of the Governor's rule under Section 93 for nearly another year, which is an indefensible course in the present circumstances. If the alternative is between a government responsible to a Legislature elected under the electoral roll completed some years ago and autocratic regime in which the legislative and executive functions are centred in a single individual, however well-intentioned he may be, there can be no two opinions as to what an enlightened or patriotic citizen would prefer."

Insurance

INCREASE IN LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS

The total number of insurers who stood registered under the Insurance Act, 1938, on 30th September 1945, was 330 of which 234 insurers were constituted in India and 96 out of India. 151 Indian Insurers carry on Life insurance business only, 47 carry on life and other classes of insurance business and 36 carry on only non-life business. 4 Non-Indian Insurers carry on Life insurance business only, 11 carry on life and other classes of insurance business and 81 carry on only non-life business.

The new life insurance business effected in India by Indian insurers during 1944, amounted to about 4,32,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 95.20 Crores and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 5.12 Crores, showing an increase over the previous year of about 1,49,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 32.26 Crores in the sum insured and Rs. 1.64 Crores in the premium income. The corresponding figure for Non-Indian insurers were about 19,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 11.00 Crores and yielding a premium income of Rs. 0.62 Crores, showing an increase over the previous year of about 6,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 1.82 Crores in sum insured and Rs. 0.13 Crores in the yearly premium.

The net amount of life insurance business effected by Indian insurers in India and in force at the end of the year amounted to about 19,40,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 306.15 Crores and

having a premium income of Rs. 18.10 Crores recording an increase over the previous year of about 3,12,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 72.07 Crores in the sums insured and Rs. 3.26 Crores in the premium income. The corresponding figures for Non-Indian insurers were about 1,87,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 76.98 Crores and having a premium income of Rs. 4.33 Crores.

INSURANCE IN INDIA

The first Life Insurance Company in India was The Madras Equitable, started in 1829. This company did good business but went into liquidation after the Great War. The next company, or the oldest existing company, happens to be the Bombay Mutual, which was founded in 1871. The Oriental of Bombay was founded in 1874 followed by the Indian Life of Karachi, the Empire of Bombay and Bharat of Lahore. The oldest proprietary company in Madras is the United India established in 1906. In Bengal The National Insurance Co., was founded in the wake of the Swadeshi Movement in 1906. There has been a large expansion of Insurance business in India during the last two decades.

PROVIDENT INSURANCE COMPANIES

Provident Insurance Companies are registered under the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912 and generally transact 'dividing insurance' business. According to this plan the sum assured is not fixed but depends on the division of a portion of each year's premium income. But this system has been prohibited by the New Insurance Act of 1938. At present more than 500 Provident Insurance Companies are working in India.

FATE OF INDIA'S CREDIT

"Scaling down of our debts inside the Empire is politically calamitous and morally wrong. We owe in India money because, for our military necessity, we took from her goods she in her poverty, assuredly could not and would not have given us freely. We have not the right to bilk India," writes Prof Edward Thompson in the *New Statesman and Nation* discussing the acceptance of the American loan.

"At the close of the first world war an eminent Judge of our High Court, now no more, told me that denial of just debts is not the British way and every penny of the debt due to America will be paid by Britain," writes Mr T. R. Venkatarama Srinivasulu. What happened subsequently does not need to be told.

The Congress threatened to disown debts that were accumulated against India. Britain was aghast. Safeguards the most drastic, covering the whole field of British economic and financial interests in India were inserted in the Government of India Act and relaxation of the strangling is not now to be thought of though the most vital interests of India demand it.

Now comes the question of sterling balances owed to India by Britain. Every attempt is made to write it off, or to put it off with a promise of future payment, waiting upon circumstances the most uncertain in an ever changing world.

Sell government has been ready for you all the time, it is the fault of you Indians that you have not taken it—says the Prime Minister. Even independence, if India chose she could have as Cripps offer assured, just after the war. Everything done, everything ought to be done since that effort indicates digging the deeper than ever before. A treaty with India is ready before India has been set on her own feet. British interests will have to be apparently secured before Indian interests can pass into Indian hands.

What Britain gets from U.S.A., is being got from a rich and prosperous nation. What is tried to be taken out of India is sought to be extracted from abject poverty.

The needs of India are no less vital and no less urgent and yet it would seem as if those who are engaged in smoothing world affairs thought that British interests must come first no matter what happens to others.

The economic effects of the United States financial schemes for Britain will be disastrous to India, said Sir Chinnalal B. Mehta in an interview to the Associated Press of India. Sir Chinnalal was referring to the financial scheme presented by the United States authorities to the British Delegation in Washington on the subject of a loan of five thousand million dollars by the United States to Britain.

From the Indian point of view, said Sir Chinnalal the scheme is not worth even considering.

INDIAN BUSINESSMEN IN AMERICA

As a result of a representation personally made to Mr. N. R. Pillai, Secretary, Commerce Department, Government of India during his recent visit to America, by the Indian Chamber of Commerce of America, New York, the Agent General to the Government of India at Washington has been advised, at the instance of the Commerce Department, to give all possible assistance for securing priority of air travel to those Indian merchants of America who would like to visit India for renewing or establishing business contacts and the urgency and importance of whose business require quick travel by air.

LOAN TO BRITAIN

Final Anglo-American agreement has been reached on a loan of \$4,400,000,000.

LADY PETHICK-LAWRENCE'S MESSAGE

"I rejoice that you have such a great leader as Gandhiji. Personally, I am convinced that though he, with his principle of non-violence, be centuries ahead of his time, eventually we shall all have come back to him, because the hope of the world lies in our conversion to the great truth he has proclaimed by his life," says Lady Pethick-Lawrence, wife of Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, in the course of a message to the All-India Women's Conference, at Hyderabad.

Lady Pethick-Lawrence further says: "I want you to know that, as a fighter for freedom, and as one who has been through six imprisonments and the experience of a hunger-strike (met by the Government of that day, more than thirty years ago, by forcible feeding), I have the very fullest sympathy with all that you are feeling at the present time.

"Every person or group who can carry out in life Gandhiji's teachings and that of the great leaders who came and went before him is hastening the day when all people will understand and follow them.

"I realise the great record of gentleness and non-violence that the women of India have given as their contribution to world history. I am convinced that upon the woman as the mother of all human beings rests the mission of reconciliation. Hence, I have always held the belief that every woman, in a very special sense, has two loyalties, one to her kindred nation and one to the whole of the human family; and that regardless of race or religion, we, as women, are united in a solidarity of aim and function in which ultimate peace is rooted.

"May I plead with you to put aside as far as possible the very natural distrust that you are bound to feel with regard to the promises of the British Government? Let me remind you that it is entirely a

new Government but that it inherits as we all inherit that karma of the past errors and past mistakes which calls for great patience and faith. Let me assure you that having been a colleague for over forty years of my husband, who has been with me through the difficulties of imprisonment, I know that it is true when he assures me that he and the Cabinet are doing their very utmost to bring about results that you and I so ardently desire; but the tide of events is flowing very strongly against all who are working for justice, unity and peace not only in Asia but throughout the whole world. They and you are battling against this tide and the need is great for understanding, mutual trust and sympathy."

INVALIDATION OF HINDU WOMAN'S MARRIAGE

Declaring that under Hindu Law a marriage was null and void if one of the partners to the marriage was unable to consummate it, Mr. S. G. Oke, Civil Judge, Nagpur, gave orders for the restitution of all her civil rights as a maiden to Hindu woman, including her right to re-marry.

The plaintiff, Ramabai, a Hindu woman, was married in 1938 to the defendant, Dolas when she was 22 years of age. It was asserted that owing to the incompetency of the defendant, the marriage was not consummated and she had to return to her father's house, when she was now residing.

Dolas never tried to take her back. The plaintiff contended that her marriage was a nullity, because the defendant was incompetent to perform 'Laja Homa' and "Saptapadi", two important rites in Hindu marriage.

Giving judgment in the plaintiff's favour, Mr. Oke said, "This conclusion is in accordance with the clear, general principle of Hindu Law that marriage is for the perpetuation of one's life."

MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA DR P K ACHARYA

The retiring Governor of U P, Sir Maurice Hallett, held on 1st December, '45 the last investiture ceremony at the imposing Darbar Hall of the Government House, Lucknow.

There were 68 persons who received medals badges and sanads of the respective Honours. There were half a dozen ladies who received silver and bronze medals mostly for hospital works. The rest with a single exception received badges mostly for war work and meritorious services. The monotony was agreeably broken by a very distinguished Professor of the Allahabad University, Dr P K Acharya IES who appeared with deep red and mauve coloured hood over the black silk gown of the highest doctor's degree of the London University. On this already imposing setting, His Excellency with a pleasant smile put across the right shoulder and underneath the left arm the gorgeous broad badge of gold and white containing in the centre a large silver star. He was then handed over the Sanad signed by the Viceroy Lord Wavell, F M, bearing the inscription "I hereby confer upon you the title of Mahamahopadhyaya as a personal distinction." His Excellency the Governor eulogized the Professor in the following words:

"As Professor of Sanskrit and Head of the Oriental Department of the Allahabad University since 1922 and Dean of the Faculty of Arts for two successive terms, your work has been of a high order. Your monumental work, the *Manasara* series, which constitutes a complete and illustrated survey and Encyclopedia of Indian Architecture and Hindu Architecture, has been highly appreciated by eminent scholars all over the world. In recognition of your service in the promotion of Sanskrit scholarship and in the field of research the title of Mahamahopadhyaya has been conferred on you. I heartily congratulate you upon the well merited distinction."

THE LATE Mr R NARAYANASWAMI IYER
Mr. Justice N Chandrasekhara Aiyar writes —

The death of Mr R Narayanaswami Aiyar B A, B L is a great loss not only to the legal world but also to the public in general. After a comparatively brief and somewhat uneventful career as a vakil, he took to business by purchasing the *Madras Law Journal* in the year 1910 and was its sole proprietor all along. He made the journal the premier unofficial legal periodical in the Presidency and under his care and guidance, it has enjoyed a unique prestige among publications of its kind in India. Mr Narayanaswami Aiyar built up the business slowly but securely and if it is now a flourishing concern, it is due almost entirely to his capacity in management and organisation. He has published several standard books in law, Sanskrit literature and Tamil and his monthly Tamil Magazine *Kalamagal* which has been running for over a decade now has earned for itself much reputation.

REUTERS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Reuters new Board of Directors consists of Viscount Rothermere, Chairman of the Associated Newspapers, whose papers include the *Daily Mail*, Sir Walter Layton, Chairman of the *News Chronicle*, Mr H G Bartholomew, Chairman of the *Daily Mirror* Newspapers Limited, Mr J R Scott, Chairman of the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr Malcolm Graham, Managing Director of the *Wolverhampton Express and Star*, and Mr Harold Grime, Governing Director and Editor of the *West Lancashire Evening Gazette*.

The first three are members of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association and the others are members of the Press Association representing Provincial newspapers.

MR P G HORNIMAN

Mr B G Horniman Editor of the *Bombay Sentinel* has resigned his editorship of the paper. Mr M N Cama has become the Editor of the paper.

CONGRESS MEDICAL MISSION TO BURMA

The Congress Working Committee has decided to send a Medical Mission to Burma and Malaya and has called upon Dr. B. C. Roy to organise such a mission in consultation with Sardar Vallabhai Patel.

The following is the text of the resolution of the Committee on the subject:

"In view of the serious and widespread distress prevailing among Indians in Burma and Malaya for want of food and medical attention and cloth scarcity, the Working Committee resolves that a Medical Mission be sent, on behalf of the Congress, to Burma and Malaya in order to give medical and other needed relief more especially to the I N A. and Indian Independence League personnel there."

PNEUMONIA INFECTION

Why is it that some people are more liable to catch pneumonia than others?

Doctors have not yet succeeded in unravelling this mystery but their experiments have revealed, that between 15 and 65 years of age, more than twice as many men die of pneumonia as do women, writes the *British Medical Journal*.

This sex difference in mortality does not seem closely connected with occupations as might be imagined; in most male occupations, the men's wives are only half as likely to die of the disease, but the wife mortality rises or falls according to the occupational group keeping pace with the male mortality.

Pneumonia kills the poor far more readily than the rich. The lower the social class, economically speaking, the higher the pneumonia death rate. Lowest paid wage-earners are twice as likely to die of pneumonia as payers of super tax.

NOBEL PRIZE FOR PENICILLIN DISCOVERER

The Nobel prize for medicine has been awarded to Sir Alexander Fleming of London University, and Doctor Ernst Boris Chain and Sir Howard Walter Florey of Oxford University in recognition of the discovery of penicillin.

HEALTH PLAN FOR INDIA

For the first time in the history of India, a comprehensive ten-year plan for health, approximately costing Rs. 1,000 crores by way of capital and recurring expenditure, has been suggested by the All-India Health Survey and Development Committee.

Personal health services, including the directional organisations associated with the Ministries of Public Health, Professional Education and expenditure on other items it is estimated will require 163 crores in the first five years in British India; and the next five years will require 200 crores, which complete a ten year programme. The recurring annual expenditure will be 40 crores during the first five years and 81 crores in the next five years. The annual per capita expenditure will be Rs. 1-3-11 during the first five years, and Rs. 2-6-6 during the next five years. The present per capita expenditure is 3 annas.

The committee which is presided over by Sir Joseph Bhore, aims at a target of one doctor for every 2,000 citizens.

This target figure is to be reached by the year 1971.

The committee takes the village as the nucleus for health organisation and suggests building upwards. When the scheme is brought into full operation by the year 1971, India will have 185,000 doctors as against 47,500 she has at present. Today there is one doctor for every 6,800 people in India, as against one doctor for every thousand persons in England.

HOW BALDNESS IS CAUSED

Baldness, in its common forms, is no sudden pouring out of the hairs, like quills from a porcupine's back. The new hairs become dwarfed in length and thickness and finally dwindle until one by one they fail to follow their predecessors up through their scalp. The nourishment on which the hair lives is supplied by the body through the skin—the blood and oxygen carried by the blood vessels.

INDIA AND THE STERLING POLICY

Mr Manu Subedar M.L.A. (Central) speaking at a luncheon given in his honour in Bombay, said that the sterling balances which accrued due to compulsorily taking from India goods and thus depriving the Indian population of the benefit of these should be paid to India and that Britain's plea of not being able to do so was false so long as there were British interests in India at an inflated value of Rs 800 crores

Mr Manu Subedar added India is being tied to the apron strings of Britain and contrary to their undertaking the London controlled Government of India is about to join the Bretton Woods fund and bank. While this step would create a liability for contribution and a sacrifice of the power over our exchange it does not bring any corresponding gain because India's need is not for international loans but to recover fully the funds which have been compulsorily transferred to London. How can a country which has not a responsible Government gain prestige in the international world? India is a pawn in the hands of the United Kingdom and is being used for British purposes without any regard to her own specific needs and requirements

BANK OF FRANCE NATIONALISED

By 521 votes to 35 the French National Assembly endorsed the Government's decision to nationalise the Bank of France the four main deposit banks—the Credit Lyonnais, Société Générale, Comptoir des Comptes et Banque National pour le Commerce et l'Industrie—and to set up a National Council of Credit to take over the credit system. The terms on which the banks have been taken over are considerably harsher than those on which Bank of England shareholders have been compensated. The Assembly introduced charges in the Government's Bill which made the terms more stringent

TELE COMMUNICATIONS ON RAILWAYS

To improve and speed up train services the Indian Railways have embarked upon a vast tele communications programme. A total of 20,000 miles of new trunk telephone train control and telegraph circuits are under construction, and a number of these lines are already operating on sections carrying heavy traffic. With improvised materials the Railways have carried out many improvements to train and traffic control offices. A teleprinter network has been planned to cover the principal Railways throughout the country and the first circuits are already in operation.

Wireless has been introduced to give a direct and flexible means of communication. Wireless stations have been set up between railway headquarters and divisions which in turn are linked up with their principal junctions. Mobile sets are also in operation especially during floods and breaches when line communications have been destroyed.

INDIAN RAILWAY SERVICE OF ENGINEERS

The following is the list of 25 candidates appointed to the Indian Railway Service of Engineers as a result of the competitive examination held by the Federal Public Service Commission in 1944.

Messrs A. K. Ramayya, N. N. Lakshana, Saima, P. O. Thomas, M. G. Nair, Trikl Nath, Joshi, A. V. Jacob, P. N. Chópura, S. Kulathu Aiyar, P. V. Narayanaswamy, L. F. X. Freitas, E. S. M. Carlos, Krishan Chandar, C. D. Dharmam, K. Ramachandri, Rai, P. N. Subramanian, C. B. Raghavulna, Reddi, A. Sulumaran, John Apputharaj, H. I. Motaney, S. K. Mojumder, P. D. Jun, T. M. Thomas, Basir, Ibrahim, Mahmed Ayyub, and G. Ahmed Sheriff.

GANDHIJI'S TOUR IN BENGAL

The Government of Bengal have provided certain Railway facilities for Gandhiji's tour so that the fatigue of travel and of meeting crowds may be reduced as much as possible. Two launches have also been made available to Gandhiji and party for the Midnapore trip. In certain other facilities have also been provided.

ART EXHIBITION AT ADYAR

The Exhibition of Indian pictorial arts and crafts was declared open at Adyar by Sir S. V. Ramamurthi on the eve of the Theosophical Society's Convention.

The exhibits have been restricted to paintings indicating the trends of the movement which began in Bengal 40 years ago. Three schools are represented. There is a group of pictures by the teachers and students of the School of Arts founded a short time ago in Trivandrum under the patronage of the State Government.

Another feature is a small but significant set of paintings by girl students of Sri R. M. Raval's School in Ahmedabad. These indicate close observation of the distinctive life of that picturesque province.

An individual exhibit indicates the growth of the art of Sri Promode Kumar Chatterji of Calcutta. Some of the exhibits are by new students and give promise of future excellence. There are, however, masterpieces in the typical delicacy and detail of painters following the traditional viewpoint and method. A small set of Rajput and Mogul paintings is also on exhibition.

MUSIC ACADEMY CONFERENCE

The nineteenth Annual Conference and Music concerts organised by the Madras Music Academy were declared open at the Sundareswarar Hall, Mylapore, on December 22, in the presence of a large gathering by the Raja of Ramnag Sangitha Vidwan Maharajapuram Viswanatha Aiyar, president.

Besides the representatives of the various music sabhas in the city, a number of well-known vidwans and music-lovers were present. The opening and the presidential addresses stressed the importance of preserving the tradition and purity of Carnatic music and pointed out the need to avoid the linguistic controversy in the domain of music. An appeal was also made to Vidwans to support the Academy in its efforts to maintain the high standard of Carnatic music.

INDIAN CRICKET

In an article written to the *Sunday Telegraph*, George Thatcher notes the rapid stride of progress made by Indian cricket in recent years. He pays a warm tribute to Ranji and says that no other Indian has ever appreciated his skill.

When the Nawab of Pataudi scored a century for England against Australia in his first Test appearance at the S.C.G. in 1932, he said: "We have the Indian sign on Australian XI bowlers".

Pataudi was the third Indian to make a first appearance century in Anglo-Australian Tests.

The others are: K. S. Ranjitsinghji afterwards His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawabnagar and his nephew, K. S. Duleepsinghji. One of the three Indians who have scored a Test century for his country against England, Vijay Madhavji Merchant was described by the Indian-born Douglas Jardine as the soundest batsman in India.

Only 5ft 7in. in height, Merchant, according to Wisden's, overcomes his lack of reach by perfect footwork and a quick eye.

In a game at Bombay, a ball from English fast-bowler Nichols hit him on the chin, knocked him out.

Merchant after receiving medical attention, batted for three hours.

He averaged 51.32 in the 1937 tour of England.

Merchant made the record Indian score of 359 not out last year and twice exceeded 250.

Indian critics regard Merchant as more efficient than Pataudi, and with only slightly less capacity than Duleepsinghji.

V. S. Hazare, who has twice exceeded 300 in Pentangular games at the Brabourne Stadium, is described by Clarrie Ellen (R.A.A.F.), former Petersham first-grader, as a batsman worthy of inclusion in any Sheffield Shield side.

TATA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

"India stands in urgent need of the speedy development of her resources, both agricultural and industrial. This can only be achieved with the aid of science," observed Sir John Colville, Governor of Bombay, declaring open the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay on December 19.

His Excellency regarded the establishment of the Institute as an encouraging sign, showing how a wise use of trust funds, individual initiative and Government support could be combined for the common good. The enterprise was of importance to the country's development.

Sir Sorab Saklatvala, a member of the Council of the Institute, said it was the object of the Institute, to bring together notable scientists India had produced so that they might give their best in the interests of the country.

Prof Bhalla in a brief talk on the occasion, explained the importance of Cosmic radiation. To discover new secrets of nature they had to study matter in still unfamiliar conditions and see what happened when it was bombarded with particles of high voltage. Such particles could not be produced in a laboratory to-day. In cosmic rays nature had provided the biggest atom smashing machine in the world.

The study of cosmic rays, Prof Bhalla added, had already revealed the processes involving the creation of matter and had led to the discovery of a new elementary particle, the Meson. Cosmic rays would form the main field of experimental research at the Institute for the present. He hoped that it would soon extend to nuclear physics, since the two are very closely related.

Prof Chandrasekhar, who holds a Chair of Astrophysics at Yerkes Observatory of the Chicago University, will shortly join the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

THE CINEMA AND OBSCENITY

The cinema is "one of the curses of this age", observed Mr. S. M. Hasan, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Egmore Court, Madras, in the course of an order sentencing Mr. L. Ananta Aiyar, Editor, Printer and Publisher of the *Hindu Nesan*, to pay a fine of Rs 400 on charges of having published in the issues of his paper matter of an obscene nature in regard to certain cinema stars.

In pronouncing sentence on the accused the magistrate observed:

I take into consideration the fact that the role of the accused in disseminating obscenity is only a minor one when compared to the institution of cinema itself. The cinema is one of the curses of this age. It has turned thousands of girls of respectable families into dancing girls and boys into buffoons and robbed both of the virtue of modesty and dignity. Whatever little educative or moral value is claimed on behalf of it is a cloak to conceal its hideous nature. The film producers are not concerned primarily with social and moral reform. Their chief objective is to earn money and this accused has tried to pick up some crumbs from their table. Obscenity is introduced to widen the circulation and to increase the sale. I therefore, consider that a sentence of fine will amply meet the ends of justice.

HIGH INCOME OF FILM HEADS

Mr. Louis, B. Mayer, Chief of Metro Goldwynmayer Film Corporation, heads the list of high figure incomes issued by the United States Treasury for 1943.

Mr Mayer's income was estimated at 908 070 dollars while Mr Charles E. Wilson, President of General Motors Corporation, was second with 4 59 041 dollars.

ABOLITION OF RAW FILM CONTROL

In a recent Press Note the Government of India announced their decision to cancel the Raw Cinematograph Film (Control of Distribution) Order, 1943, with effect from December 15 1945 or from such earlier date as may be possible. They have now finally decided to cancel the Control Order with effect from the 15th December 1945.

SOVIET MOTOR CAR INDUSTRY

Russia's new five-year plan for the automobile industry will see the Soviet Union manufacturing cars and trucks in such volume that it may well compete seriously with the United States and Britain for the world market, writes Eddy Gilmore, Associated Press of America staff correspondent.

Already a large industry in the U.S.S.R., the automotive plants will be increased three to four times their present size by the end of this five-year plan, according to S. R. Akopov, Commissar of medium machine building industry. Generalissimo Stalin has taken a personal interest in that programme.

New plants are scheduled to be constructed in Siberia, the Ukraine, White Russia and Georgia. The new upswing is scheduled to begin next year with the Soviets expected in turn out twice as many cars this year.

The Soviet Union's new popular car is called the "Victory" and is said to be a highly economical five passenger model with a top speed of 65 miles an hour.

ATOMIC ENERGY FOR MOTOR CAR

A group of French scientists and engineers in Paris claim that they have invented a "simple and easily manufactured apparatus involving the principle of atomic disintegration which will revolutionise the automobile industry."

They state that the apparatus "involves the process of welding by means of atomic hydrogen" and claim that its effects are to reduce petrol consumption in cars by at least 20 per cent. and to give a much greater speed.

The scientists intend to manufacture the apparatus and to sell it on licence.

COMPRESSED AIR MOTOR CAR

A novel type of automobile engine is reported from Chicago. The power is delivered to the axle of the car by a compressed air engine which is supplied with high-pressure air from the energy of vapours operating in a cycle as used in gas refrigerators, while the primary energy is supplied by evaporating a low-boiling-point fluid by a burner using butane for fuel.

SOVIET PRODUCTION OF PLANES

Soviet factories have begun large-scale production of passenger planes for civil airlines. Already the Soviet Civil Air Fleet is flying regular schedules to Teheran, China, London, Paris, Prague, Warsaw, Belgrade, Sofia, Bucharest, Vienna, and Budapest.

The foundations of peace-time flying were laid during the war when in spite of military Aviation demands, heavy civil passenger planes increased more than ten-fold.

The most notable Soviet achievement in civil aviation is the establishment of a regular service between Moscow and the United States.

The service began in the dark days of 1941 and passes across nearly 4,000 miles of little-explored territory in Northern Siberia, Kamchatka and Alaska.

NEW YORK TO KARACHI IN SIXTY HOURS

New York to Karachi in sixty hours—this is the schedule which the Pan-American Airways plan to operate from the middle of 1946.

According to an official of the Airways it is proposed to run the service between New York and Calcutta twice a week.

The Pan-American Airways also propose to operate another service from San Francisco to Calcutta.

Calcutta will thus be the terminal where the East-bound and West-bound around-the-world-service will meet.

BRITISH FLIERS' FEATS WITH METEORS

Group Captain Willy Wilson, flying in a jet-propelled 'Meteor' broke the world's airspeed record over a three-kilometre course at the average speed for four trial runs of 602 miles per hour.

In the first run Capt Wilson did 600 miles an hour, on the second 602, on the third 592, and on the last 613 miles an hour.

INCREASE OF FACTORIES IN INDIA

The number of factories working in British India increased from 12,527 in 1912 to 13,209 in 1943 according to the Provincial Annual Reports on the working of the Factories' Act 1934, during the year 1943.

The increase was confined only to perennial factories. Seasonal factories registered a small decrease from 3,681 to 3,675. Among the provinces which shared the increase in perennial factories most prominent were Madras (211), Bombay (210) and the Punjab (103).

The total number of notified factories increased from 2,505 to 2,680. This increase was mostly accounted for by Madras followed by Bombay where the number of perennial notified factories increased by 130 and 55 respectively.

During the year under review the average daily number of women, adolescents and children employed in factories was 3,02,690 against 2,99,838 in the previous year. The percentage of women to the total factory population was 10.8 as against 11.5 in 1942; that of adolescents stood at 1.2 and of children at 0.5. The report says: 'In spite of the labour shortage in some areas there does not appear to have been any serious attempt to substitute women, adolescents or children for men.'

TECHNICAL MISSION TO GERMANY

At the request of the Planning and Development Department of the Government of India His Majesty's Government have agreed to include five Indian expert technicians in the appropriate teams of British and American experts going to Germany to investigate special industrial and technical processes likely to be advantageous to Allied industrial production.

The Indian technicians selected are: Dr. Narai Ahluwalia, Technical Director Indian Central Cotton Committee; Mr. S. P. Narai of Messrs. Powell's Ltd.; Mr. R. D. Chatterjee of Standard Batteries; Mr. S. L. Karloskar of Karloskar Bros., and Dr. L. C. Janiwala of Estrella Batteries.

MARKETING OF BANANAS

In their report on the marketing of bananas the Agricultural Marketing Department of the Government of India suggest that possibilities of increasing the demand of bananas for industrial uses should be explored and trade in banana, fibre and flour, particularly in the surplus banana producing Provinces and States like Madras, Mysore, Cochin and Travancore, should be taken up.

Under war conditions, the report adds, there seems to be little scope for developing foreign trade in Indian bananas but the position may be reviewed when normal conditions return and it may be possible to increase the export of bananas from Madras and Bombay.

The area under bananas in India is estimated at 404,550 acres producing about 110 million maunds. The average annual export of bananas during the three years from 1937-38 to 1939-40 was 12,000 maunds only.

The report suggests that banana varieties should be systematically classified and described in all the principal banana-producing Provinces and States.

WATER SHORTAGE IN TANJORE DELTA

The Tanjore delta is facing a shortage in the supply of water for irrigation the water level in the Mettur Reservoir having considerably gone down. A few months back, the turn system was adopted and it is feared says a correspondent that there might be a further reduction even in the available supply.

The single crop (samba) which has not failed yet in many places would require both rain water and irrigated water. If the former fails completely, the latter is essential and, without it the crop would be affected considerably. The 'thaladi' (second crop) which has been transplanted recently, will require water for another two months.

The situation is causing great anxiety to the ryots, who are looking forward anxiously for rain and water supply to save the situation.

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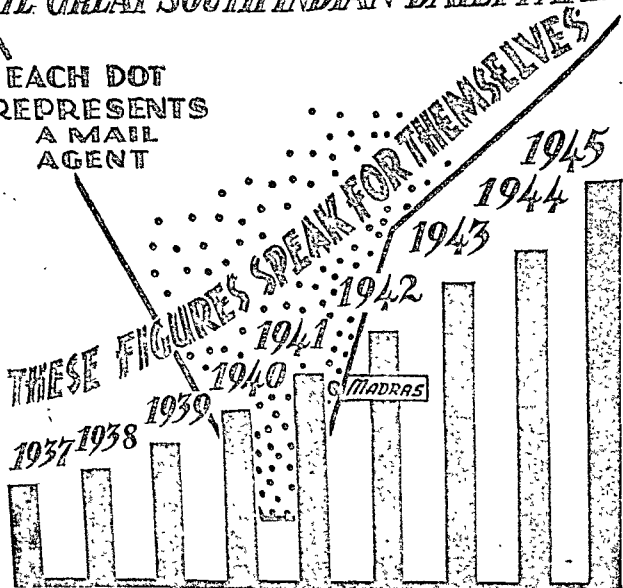
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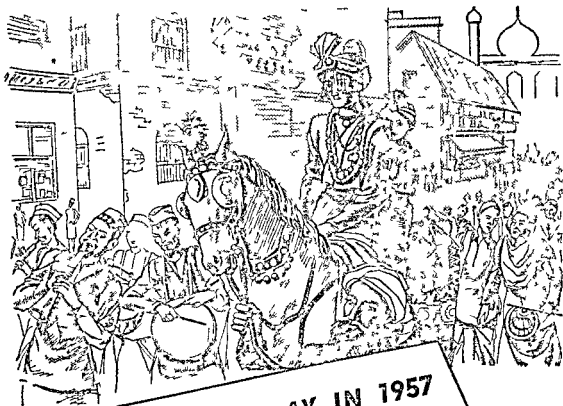
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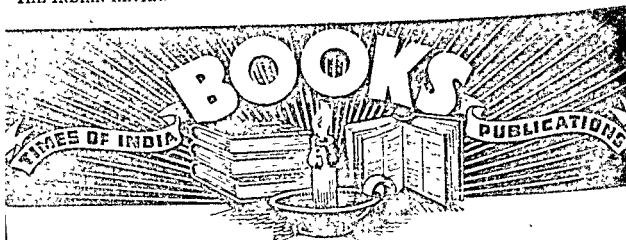
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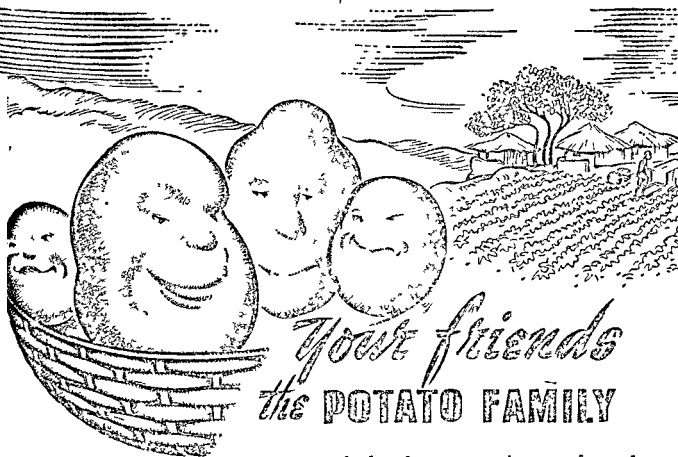
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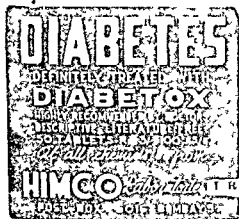
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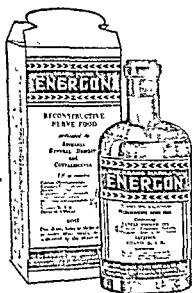
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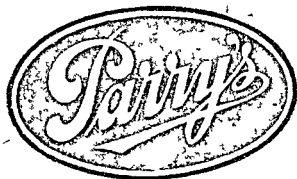
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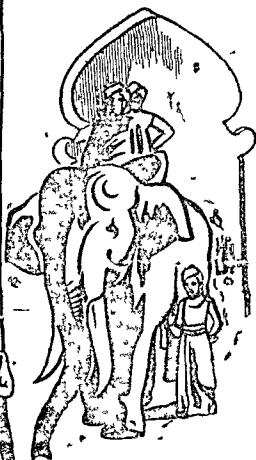
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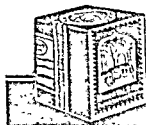
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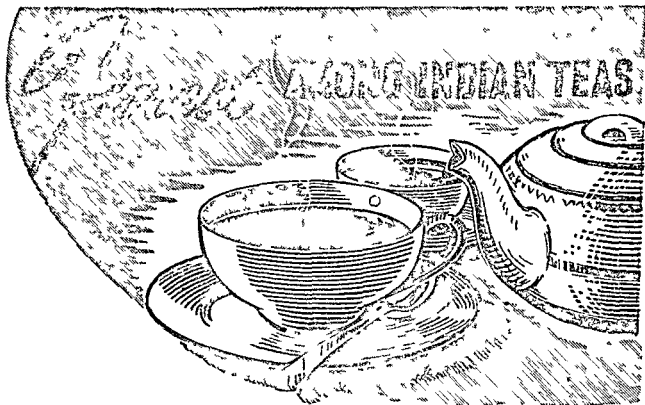
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Kundan Lal Saigal, the golden voiced idol of the Indian screen, was born at Srinagar in 1906. For some time he served the Govt. of India and M. W. Railway. He joined the New Theatres in 1931, and ever since has been delighting his countrymen with the most popular song-hits. Perhaps in no other role did his musical genius find such spontaneous expression as in that of "Tansen".

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BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

BY DR SIR C V RAMAN, Kt

AS has been remarked by Robert Louis Stevenson in a charming little essay on this subject, it is scarcely possible to speak of books that have influenced one without finding oneself engaged on an auto biographical essay of a sort. A man's outlook on the problems of life is necessarily moulded by the influences to which he has been subject, and especially by the influences brought to bear on him when at an impressionable age. The share which books have had in shaping his mental outlook and ultimately also his career in life, is, I fancy a highly variable one, and to no small extent dependent on the person's environment at home and at school in his early days. Indeed, a good home and a good school may be judged by the kind of books they put in the way of the growing young person for him to feed his mind and his emotions upon. I believe it is the exception rather than the rule for the books which are formally taught at school and at college to exercise any profound influence on the mind of the student. The element of compulsion introduced in the prescription of books for study is usually fatal to that attitude of mind which is necessary for the full appreciation of their

contents. It is the books the merits of which you have, so to say, discovered for yourself, that really influence you.

The failure to recognise this elementary fact of human psychology, namely the antithesis between choice and compulsion, is responsible for the unfruitful character of a vast amount of scholastic effort in the way of both teaching and learning. I can tell you here a story about myself or rather against myself in this connection. Forty five years ago, a well meaning University prescribed Robert Louis Stevenson's well known story "Kidnapped" as an English text for the First Arts course. I do not remember the precise number of times this text was taught or lectured upon in class, or the precise number of times I read through the book during the two years' course of study for the examination. The copy I purchased and used disappeared in due course. One evening, a couple of years ago, a copy of Stevenson's "Kidnapped" beautifully printed and bound caught my eye at a Railway bookstall. I was tempted to buy it and took it home and started reading the book before going to bed. Believe it or not, the story or rather the manner of its telling, gripped me so powerfully that

their branches and twigs so minutely, that he ceases even to be conscious of the existence of the wood. The real value of Geometry appears when we consider it as a whole, not as merely as the properties of straight lines, triangles and circles, but of everything else, curves, figures and solids of all kinds. Thus regarded, Geometry makes a profound appeal both to our senses and to our intellect. Indeed, of all branches of Mathematics, it is that which links most closely what we see with the eye with what we perceive by reasoning. The ancient Greeks had a fine sense of the value of intellectual discipline, they had also a fine sense of the beautiful. They loved Geometry just because it had both these appeals. In my early years, it was a great struggle for me to learn to overcome the dislike of the formalism of Euclid and gradually to perceive the fascination and beauty of the subject. Not until many years later, however, did I fully appreciate the central position of Geometry in relation to all natural knowledge. I can illustrate this relationship by a thousand examples but will content myself with remarking that every mineral found in Nature, every crystal made by man, every leaf, flower or fruit that we see growing every living thing from the smallest to the largest that walks on earth, flies in the air or swims in the waters or lives deep down on the ocean floor, speaks aloud of the fundamental role of Geometry in Nature. The pages of Euclid are like the opening bars of the music in the grand opera of Nature's great drama. So to say, they lift the veil and show to our vision a glimpse of a vast world of natural knowledge awaiting study.

Of all the great names in the world of learning, that have come down to us from the remote past, that of Archimedes, by common consent, occupies the foremost place. Speaking of the modern world, the supremest figure, in my judgment is that of Hermann Von Helmholtz. In the range and depth of his knowledge, in the clearness and profundity of his scientific vision, he easily transcended all other names I could mention, even including Isaac Newton. Rightly he has been described as the intellectual Colossus of the nineteenth century. It was my great good fortune, while I was still a student at college, to have possessed a copy of an English translation of his great work on 'The Sensations of Tone'. As is well known, this was one of Helmholtz's masterpieces. It treats the subject of music and musical instruments not only with profound knowledge and insight, but also with extreme clarity of language and expression. I discovered this book for myself and read it with the keenest interest and attention. It can be said without exaggeration that it profoundly influenced my intellectual outlook. For the first time, I understood from its perusal what scientific research really meant and how it could be undertaken. I also gathered from it a variety of problems for research which were later to occupy my attention and keep me busy for many years. Helmholtz had written yet another great masterpiece entitled 'The Physiology of Vision'. Unfortunately, it was not available to me as it had not then been translated into the English language.

with Gods and men, and with all the creatures of earth and sea, of fire and air in conflict or co operation

Of this group of Dante and Wagner is immortal and ever youthful Plato. Plato affects me to my inmost depths because of his great concept of Archetypes at work in his visible cosmos of men and things. Along one line Dante is the end of art along another Wagner. So too is Plato the end of all philosophy and art for when all is said and done, the clue to the mystery of life is, the Archetype

And lastly comes Ruskin whose gospel of humanitarianism is the noblest gospel that I know. Ruskin to me thinks true. He thinks true because he feels true. And he feels true, because he has realised that all art, all religion, all science and philosophy

lead to one goal, which is to understand man, and to love and serve man. He brings all the powers of his intensely artistic nature to preach that gospel. In many ways, especially in Political Economy, we are still in darkness, because we have not yet cared to understand Ruskin.

My walls are full of books, but if I were going to be exiled to a desert island with only a few of the world's books permitted to be taken, I should select just these few: a volume of the twelve Upanishads, the Bible, the Sutta Nipata, Dante's Divine Comedy, Hardy's poems, the two Oxford books of English and Spanish verse, Wagner's Nibelungen Ring and a Shakespeare. And why so few? Because I have discovered my world of literature, and what I read in these reflects my own inner discovery.

It is because these authors have inspired me to "live pure speak true, fight wrong, follow The King" —that unseen King who is the Atman in the universe and in myself—, I say to each 'Tasmai Sri Gurave Namah!'

The Nationalization of the Bank of England

By MR B N CHATTERJI

Techno University

THE Labour Government of England have lost no time in redeeming one of the election pledges made to the country at the time of the last elections by introducing a bill in the House of Commons for the nationalization of the Bank of England.

The bank as is well known has been a stockholder's bank since its incorporation on July 27, 1694. The original capital which stood at £1,200,000 was increased from time to time until it amounted to £14,553,000. The entire capital of the Bank was lent to Government and thus constituted a guardian capital. The stocks of the Bank like those of other public corporations were listed on the London Stock Exchange and the stockholders have been getting a dividend of 10 per cent for years. These stocks will be compulsorily acquired

by the Government and the stockholders will be paid £55,000,000 as consideration.

Formerly service on the board of directors was a monopoly of the leading merchant bankers of London but in recent years there has been a tendency to appoint a few industrialists on the board. Lord Keynes had been for some years a director of the Bank. In future the Governor and Directors of the Bank will be appointed by Government and the Bank will have to act under Government instructions in matters relating to policy.

Whatever might have been the constitution of the Bank in the past, it is admitted on all hands that for years past it has functioned as a state department. It has operated under special powers set forth in its Charters and has acquired large powers which it has

exercised by custom. Since the passing of the Bank Charter Act of 1844 until the abandonment of gold standard in 1931, the Bank was charged with the responsibility of making an adequate supply of credit available to trade and industry, controlling currency and maintaining the convertibility of the bank note, regulating exchanges and supplying gold for liquidating England's balance of payment on foreign trade account as also for international payments.

It is generally conceded that the Bank discharged its duties with consummate skill and judgment and it soon came to be recognised as the leading Central Bank in the world whose policies and conventions set a pattern for other Central Banks to follow.

During the First World War the Bank played a very important part in helping the British Government in its war efforts by granting credits and issuing loans on behalf of Government.

Again the Bank was largely responsible for the restoration of the old gold parity of £3-17-10½d. per standard ounce in 1925. It is true the Bank came in for much criticism for its part in the restoration of the old gold parity which indirectly aggravated the effects of the World Economic Depression by bringing about an appreciation of sterling. Judging by subsequent events, it may be said that the authorities committed an error of judgment in advising the government to restore the old gold parity, but it must at the same time be admitted that the attitude of the Bank was dictated by considerations of the position of London in the international money markets.

The suspension of gold standard in 1931 not only left the pound sterling unprotected against inevitable fluctuations but also exposed it to the danger of speculative operations. With a view to meet the situation, the Issue Department of the Bank undertook the buying and selling of pounds against foreign currencies and for some time a considerable amount of cover against the fiduciary issue of the Bank consisted of foreign bills. After some time the authorities of the Bank felt that its resources were quite inadequate to iron out sterling fluctu-

ations and that interventions in the foreign exchange market undertaken in public interests should be executed with public funds. Accordingly a special machinery in the form of Exchange Equalisation Account was set up. Though the Account was under the control of the Treasury, the Bank acted in close co-operation with the Government. It is now known that the Bank played no insignificant part in the operations undertaken on behalf of the Account.

The World Economic Depression found British industry totally unprepared to meet an economic disturbance of this magnitude. Important basic industries like coal, iron, textile, shipping were neither organised nor rationalised. It was felt that suitable machinery should be set up for institutional financing with a view to help the national industries. That the Bank was alive to its responsibilities was shown by the fact that within a very short time two institutions viz., the Banker's Industrial Development Company and the Security Management Trust were set up in 1930, under the auspices of the Bank, for financing the rationalising and reconstruction of shipbuilding, iron and cotton industries. Since then the Bank has participated in the capital issue of two other financing institutions, viz. Finance Corporation for industry and the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation Ltd.

The successful financing of the Second World War was largely due to the expert guidance of the Bank.

It would thus appear that during the greater part of the last 50 years the Bank has for all practical purposes functioned as a state Bank. As the national economy of England was organized on capitalistic basis, the interests of the City of London which held practically all the stock of the Bank were identical with those of the Government. Consequently, there was hardly any matter of policy on which there was any serious divergence of opinion between the board of Directors and the Government. Prof. G.D.H. Cole has made some serious allegations against the Bank's activities in an interesting article in the September issue of the "Picture Post." He has charged the

Bank with responsibility for discrediting the economic and financial policy of the First Labour Government and thus bringing about its fall in 1931. The gravamen of his charge is that the Bank allowed itself to be used as a tool in the hands of the City of London by opposing a progressive approach to social and economic problems of the day.

The nationalization of the Bank is not calculated to produce any spectacular effect in the immediate future. Its importance at the present moment lies in the fact that it marks the symbolic end of the control of the Bank by the City of London. The Labour Government has placed a socialist programme before the country. A bill for the nationalization of coal mines is already before the House of Commons. Other progressive measures are bound to follow. The nationalization of the Bank, therefore at this juncture will ensure a socialistic approach to the future economy of the country.

The problems which England will have to face in the near future will call for bold constructive leadership. The War has left England much enfeebled in resources and national wealth. If the pre-war standard of life is to be maintained England must increase her exports by 50 per cent. National industries will have to be rehabilitated and the change over from war time to peacetime production expedited. The Government is pledged to a policy of full employment. To achieve these objects the money rates must be kept low and the supply of money and credit kept up at a

level which will eliminate all possibility of depression. For the rebuilding of national economy, it will be necessary to control capital movements for a long time and regulate investment policy. It may also be necessary to maintain a general control over foreign payments on trade account. The socialised Bank will be called upon to deal with the regulation of foreign exchange and the determination of the supply of credit.

Nationalisation of the Central Bank of a country acquires special significance only when a radical change in the social and economic order is contemplated. The Central Bank in such circumstances can be used as a powerful lever for supplying cheap credit to trade, business, and industry, stabilising prices, regulating exchanges, and bringing the internal financial and monetary policy in line with the policy of the Government.

The Bank of England is going to be nationalised at a time when great changes in social and economic order are contemplated. It has great potentialities for doing good. At any rate it will no longer be in a position to do mischief. The Labour Government in secure control of the Bank can go forward with its policy of employment and expansion with the assurance there will be no finance-ridden Central Bank to wreck its plans and programme the success of which will depend as much on the courage and vision of the Government as on the sagacity of its policy and skill in execution.

THE STUDY OF POLITICS

By PROF. M. RUTHNASAMY
Lecturer in Political Science, University of Madras

POLITICS cannot do without history. Not only because as Seely said 'Politics are vulgar when they are not liberalised by history' but for a more fundamental reason because history furnishes us with the bulk of the facts and experiences which are the raw material that help us in formulating the principles

and maxims of politics. As Lord Acton said 'the Science of politics is the one science that is deposited by the stream of history'. Any attempt to build a science of politics or syllabuses or courses in political science except on a foundation of history will prove a delusion and a snare. Specialisation in political science cannot

go to the extent of separating it from its source and strength.

But Politics to be worthy of the name and of inclusion in courses of academic study must be science. It must be that political science which in the language of one of its greatest students and exponents, Lord Acton, "resides in the serene regions, remote from the conflicts of party opinion, a science whose principles are clear, definite and certain and not more difficult to apply than the principles of the moral code." It must be founded on a study of moral principles, natural rights as well as on the facts of history and contemporary observation. For as both Burke and Mill agree in saying, politics is as much a theory of natural rights and of moral law as a practical art based on the experience of mankind. It is this two-fold path to political knowledge that we at Universities are called upon to build.

The academic teacher of political science is at the opposite pole of the politician who re-discovers old theories or, is hard put to it, invents theories of natural rights or indulges in mere strategy or tactics in the field of political action.

I found few of the politicians had had a training in history or political science or economics. It was either philosophy, or natural science, or just law. Not that it would have certainly saved them from error in thought or action if they had read history or politics or economics at the University. Nor is political knowledge of much use or even necessary in appeals to the masses—especially when there is a war on with the British. But, however independent the politician may be of academic learning, the teacher of politics at our colleges and Universities cannot afford to neglect the source of knowledge to be found in the contemporary political scene.

That is why I must deplore in public, as I did in private, the decision of the inter-University Board at its recent meeting in Colombo to recommend to Universities to

see to it that the teachers under their control do not take part in politics. I can understand that there may be circumstances local or temporary in which teachers may be advised not to take part in political campaigns. But apart from the fact that to deny to the teacher a right to take an active part in the political life of his country is to deny him one of the important rights of citizenship, the right to be elected to the representative assemblies of the country, you are denying the political life of the country the beneficial influence that may come from a body of detached and cultured and leisureed men giving their mind and energy to the business of politics. Central and provincial and especially local Governments may profit not a little from the presence and work of competent and well-chosen representatives of the body of teachers.

But there is one condition on which the teacher would be welcomed in politics. He must give politics what the teacher and none else can give—impartiality, independence, liberal knowledge, a sense of permanent values. If he joins in the shouting of the slogans of the hour and finding arguments for popular moves, he is not serving the cause of good Government or proving the need for the introduction of the teacher into political life. And Frederic II's jibe that he could always get a professor to support any policy of his would be applicable in these our democratic days. . . .

May I, as a former teacher and as one interested in the political population of teachers, plead that we should deal with these questions with science and with reason, *sine ira, sine studio* as the great historian Tacitus said—without anger and without bias. So doing, we may serve our country at a critical moment in its history. And the taunt of Henry IV to his friend may not be hurled at us "Go and hang yourself Crillon. We fought a great fight at Argues, but you were not there."

the genius of the artist has provided, to guide him in his contemplation. But the process should still involve activity, inasmuch as a proper appreciation of a work embodying the results of idealisation is impossible without an imaginative reconstruction of its content. It is only when thus ideally reconstructed that the beauty of the work becomes actual for the spectator; and it is only when it is thus 'verified by his own heart', as the Sanskrit expression goes, 'that he, rising above the interests of common life, forgets himself and is said to realise the aesthetic end. To put the same in the Indian way, the beautiful as a value needs to be striven for and achieved (*sadhiya*), no matter whether one approaches it as an artist or as a spectator.

This view of art contemplation entirely transforms the idea of the aesthetic end. In the naive view alluded to above, the end is delight, to which contemplation is but a means; and the contemplation is justified by the end to which it leads. But here no such dualism of end and means is recognised. There is only a single self-justifying process of contemplation, which represents a *progressive* appreciation of the aesthetic object. The purpose is thus present throughout the process or is immanent in it; and, if we look upon its culminating stage as the result, it is because that the stage is marked by the repose of achievement.

only as an aspect of that experience. This is the significance of the term *rasa*, used in Sanskrit for aesthetic value—a term which literally means 'savour' or 'savouring' and implies that art valuation is an active process of which delight is only a characteristic feature. It is therefore wrong to think that art exists for our delectation. If it did, some at all events would not attach much importance to it. It aims rather at inducing in us a unique attitude of mind which signifies not only pleasure but also complete disinterestedness and a sympathetic insight into the whole situation depicted by the artist. The uniqueness of this attitude will become clear when we mention that, in the view of Indian thinkers, it is comparable to the ideal state of the *Jivanmukta* or one that has realised the goal of life.

We have stated that art has no aim beyond itself; but it may appear that this is not consistent with fact, since it is found actually utilised in various spheres of life. For example, it has been used to further the interests of religion in all countries and in all ages. But this is only an apparent inconsistency. When we say that art is its own end, we think of the aesthetic process as integral and self-sufficing, so that its purpose is included in it. Art may have other purposes also, like the one to which allusion has just been made. But the point to be particularly noted is that, however excellent

the *doing* of it and in the right direction of the will involved in it. Any consequences that may follow from the deed are extraneous to it, and they, as students of the Gita will well realise have no direct bearing upon that value. One and the same work of art may have both

these aims. But it takes away nothing from its worth if, while fulfilling its intrinsic purpose, it does not serve as a means to an external end. If, however, the reverse holds good in any case, *e.g.* a poem that is purely didactic, we may still value it for its usefulness but not as art.

CONSTITUTION OF THE U.S.A.

By MR N L AHMAD

THE United States is a federation where there are two parallel systems of government national and State. The powers and functions of national government are defined by the national constitution while those of each state government are defined by the National Constitution and by the constitution of the particular states. National government possesses only such powers as have been expressly granted, a State government possesses all the residuary powers. Matters which are of national importance and which require uniformity as for instance, foreign policy, armed forces, currency etc. are handed over to the National government. Other matters, in which uniformity is not required like elementary education public works of local importance etc., are left to local control. In the national sphere, the legislature executive and judiciary are each confined by the constitution to a particular field of action. The same principle is followed in the working of the State governments. No members of the national executive is eligible to sit in the national legislature called Congress, nor can a member of a State executive sit in the legislature of that State. The result is that the executive cannot control the legislature

The Congress is composed of two houses. The House of Representatives is elected for a term of two years by large constituencies, almost equal in population. The franchise is fixed by the particular State from which the representative comes. The other house, called the Senate, is composed of two members from each state elected for six years. One third of them retire every two years. The citizens of each state elect their Senators on a general ticket. Custom forbids a candidate to offer himself for election in any district other than the one in which he resides. This factor, coupled with the demands of the constituents for places, pensions and grants for local objects, the committee method of conducting business in Congress, and the many careers open to men of talent makes it difficult for men of high intellectual ability to seek election to the Congress. The Senate which represents the federating units plays an important part in government. Its longer term continuity, wider powers, and smaller size attracts the highest talent. The Senate has established itself as equally powerful with the House of Representatives even in finance. In other matters its powers are peculiar and important. Its concurrence is required for

all important, administrative and judicial appointments made by the President. Every treaty negotiated by the executive requires the approval of two-thirds of the Senators.

The President, who is the head of the executive, is elected for four years by presidential electors specially chosen by the people in each State. The number of the presidential electors in each state is the same as the number of its representatives in Congress. This election by the electoral college has become in practice a vote by the whole people. The President possesses the right of vetoing a bill passed by the Congress and he frequently uses it. But, his veto can be over-ridden if both houses pass the bill once again each by a two-thirds majority. The President appoints heads of executive departments and a large number of other officials. The executive heads are responsible to the President and not to the Congress. He controls the whole vast business of administration on the executive side and ranks as one of the most important and powerful functionaries in the world. Mr. Woodrow Wilson in his *Constitutional Government in the United States*, published in 1908, says about the President, "No one else represents the people as a whole exercising a national choice, and inasmuch as his strictly executive duties are in fact subordinated, so far as all detail is concerned, the President represents not so much the party's governing efficiency as its controlling ideas and principles. He is not so much part of its organization as its vital link of connection with the thinking nation. . . His is the only national voice in affairs. His position takes the imagination of the country."

The national judiciary of the Americans consists of a Supreme Court and inferior Federal Courts, which have been created all over the country. The Supreme Court enjoys original jurisdiction in some cases and hears appeals from the inferior Federal Courts. But its most important function is that of the guardian of the Constitution. The Supreme Court possess the power to declare any act of the legislature or decree of the executive unconstitutional and therefore null and void. The exercise of this power by the judiciary constitutes an effective safe-guard against the abuse of power by the legislature and the executive. The Federal Judges are appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate and they hold office for life.

Let me turn now to the State Government. Each State has a legislature composed of two houses, popularly elected, with practically equal legislative powers. The legislature works by a system of committees, resembling that of Congress. This system affords little opportunity for debate in public. Abuse of legislative power for the benefit of private corporations or individuals is noticeable in the States. "Private Bills" are sponsored for this purpose by professional politicians. The Governor who is the head of the State executive, is elected by the people of the whole State. He is responsible for the maintenance of order and for vetoing bad private bills.

The Governor often over-shadows the legislature by his determination, courage, and uprightness. Judges in a large number of States are elected by the people. In some States they are appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Council or of the

legislature, while in others they are elected by the legislature. The tenure of the judges varies greatly. The salaries are not high. Election of judges by popular vote, low salaries, and short terms militate against the efficiency and integrity of the local judiciary. It is interesting to note that the States where the Governor appoints the judges usually possess an upright and competent judiciary. Ex-President William H Taft pointed out "the lax enforcement of the criminal law", which remains "one of the greatest evils from which the people of U.S.A. suffer."

Local government is an important feature of democracy in America. The New England type of local government is based on the town, which corresponds to the parish in England. The town is governed by the whole body of resident citizens, who meet at least once a year to discuss the general affairs of the community and to elect officials for the ensuing year. The American institution has been "both the school and pattern of democracy". The county stands above the town. Its officials, who are elected by the citizens for short terms, have specific statutory functions. In the southern States there are no towns; the county has been the unit of local government. The county has no council, but a number of elected officials with specific functions. In the Middle East and the Western States, both the types, town and county, exist. The important feature of this system of local government in America is the existence of popularly elected single officials or small administrative boards for short terms with specific duties prescribed by the state.

The principles of popular government are religiously applied also to the municipal government of cities, large and small. The Mayor is elected by the whole body of citizens. The legislature which consists in some cities of one house, in others of two, is elected by the several wards. Its members receive salaries. The large cities also have boards, and officials who too are popularly elected. The local judges and magistrates too are elected by the citizens for short terms.

The efficient and smooth working of the constitution of the U.S.A. is dependent on the existence of an efficient and powerful party organization. The large number of elected bodies and functionaries in the national State, and local spheres and the separation of governmental functions and powers necessitate the organization of democracy on party lines.

Each of the two great political parties, Republican and Democrat, has a party committee in every ward and city, in every township, in every electoral district, in every state. At the top of all, a national committee exists to fight the Presidential election. Each of these committees is elected by the party voters in a Primary or in a convention composed of delegates from the Primaries. The committees are appointed annually. The Primaries and conventions nominate their candidates for the several offices open to election in their respective jurisdictions. All these arrangements scrupulously comply with the doctrine of sovereignty of the people. But in actual practice real political power tends to fall in the hands of the party bosses and party machine. This is due to the plethora of elections, which call for the sacrifice of a

considerable amount of hard-earned leisure and energy on the part of an average citizen, for which he is not prepared.

The constitution of the U.S.A. presents several features, which we in India can reasonably adopt and others which we can usefully adopt to suit our own purpose. We in India have been used to powerful paternal government for a very long time and I can well imagine that a President of the American type will appeal greatly to our imagination. He will give us that unity of purpose and direction that is necessary to solve our domestic problems and to adjust our international policies in accordance with the popular will. We require also a Senate of the American pattern, which will be representative of our federating provinces and which will prevent the President from abusing his power in important matters. The President's dealings with the minorities should be made subject to the approval of the Senate which will be fully representative of the provinces where national minor-

ities are in majority. We should provide also for more opportunities for the executive to maintain frequent contact and constant exchange of views with the legislature.

Private Bills should not be allowed to come into existence in our legislatures, national and provincial. This can be secured by the rules for private bill committees and by a system of standing orders. In order to draw higher talent to the legislature, citizens should be able to seek election from districts other than those, in which they reside. Judges and police magistrates in the provincial and local spheres should be nominated for life by the head of the provincial executive, rather than elected by the people. Only then should we expect a vigorous enforcement of criminal law. Members of local bodies should receive adequate salaries and should not work in an honorary capacity. This should help in securing integrity in the working of our local self-governing institutions — *Broadcast.*

Indian Federal Finance in Peace and War

BY MR. V. G. RAMAKRISHNAN, M.A.

—:O:—

THE theory of public finance has been developed chiefly in countries with a unitary form of government. It is not therefore surprising that most of the orthodox canons on the subject tend to neglect the peculiar aspects of federal finance. Of course, there is little fundamental difference of principle between the problems that arise from either form of political organisation, but in detail there

are differences sufficiently numerous and important to reduce seriously the value of propositions based upon the one and applied to the other. No 'unitary' public finance can deal adequately with the problem, for instance, of double taxation or of 'intermediate' distribution, as they arise under a federal system.

India's federal finance is to be studied with reference rather to the future than the

present An enquiry into the Indian federal finance raises some difficult economic and constitutional problems It is further complicated and partly by the fact that the Indian budgets, Central and Provincial have been thrown completely out of gear The immediate financial prospects cannot safely be made the basis of a rigid constitutional scheme It will be necessary to aim at a considerable degree of elasticity in the financial framework, so that changing industrial and economic conditions in India at a later date might make it imperative to modify the financial schemes now proposed

The success of a modern government depends in a very large measure on the financial resources which it can command for carrying out its policies The self rule of the Indian people if it is to fulfil its cherished ends, must be based on a sound financial organisation This does not mean that high taxation is a condition of the successful working of the self government Taxes will have to be raised, under the reformed constitution according to the people's capacity to pay, whatever may be the amount yielded by them Though high taxation is not a condition of self government, neither, can low taxation be necessarily expected as its result The chief merit of the financial organisation of a self governing India shall not lie in raising less revenue or retrenching more expenditure than at present but in raising revenue wisely and spending it productively We will do well to remember Gladstone's saying, "Good finance consists more in the spending than in the collecting of revenue"

Nothing is more naive than the view entertained in some quarters that under a national regime, the government of the country will be less expensive or that the taxes will be lower Economy can and must be effected in various directions Substantial economies in existing expenditure could only be brought about by a comprehensive reorganisation of the system of administration but it might not be possible here to make any definite allowance for the effect of such reorganisation In fact it is a mistake to suppose that the cost of administration as a whole under the new political order will markedly fall off In dealing with the financial foundation of a Federal Government in India, it is necessary to ensure that a sufficient field is available for raising money taxation The field of taxation assumes a definite constitutional importance under a system of Federal Government The autonomy of the central and local authorities in their respective spheres which is the essence of Federation implies that each of these governments should have unhampered fiscal powers that is to say a division of the sphere of government must also include a division of the available sources of taxation

The problem of federal finance in India is to find a suitable basis on which to allocate existing or potential sources of revenue between the units and the federal body appropriate to their functions The authors of the Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms pointed out that if self government was to become a reality, the Provinces should be in a position to calculate their resources with certainty,

and to some extent be free to develop their own taxable capacity. They proposed therefore that genuinely federal system of finance should be set up, and that the sources of revenue should be separated between the Central Government and the Provinces. In conformity with this principle, the system of complete separation of heads of revenue was adopted in the Government of India Act. (1919).

The Indian Federal system of finance came into existence with the Reforms of 1921-22 and it assumed a more developed Federal shape with the Government of India Act. 1935. The war did not lead to great changes in the financial relations between Federal and Provincial authorities. But the working of the financial system is conditioned by the following circumstances. The population of India is about 70% of the population of the British Commonwealth. Two-thirds of the population live on one-fourth of the area, and the population is increasing at the rate of 5 million a year. The structure of public finance is influenced largely by its dependence on agriculture. Seven tenths of the population of India depends on agriculture for living. Not only is the national income very low but there is a great disparity in the incomes of different classes of the people of India.

Indian production compares very unfavourably with progressive countries; only 10% is engaged in industry and about 1 or 2% in large scale industry. In trade India ranks about ninth or tenth among the countries of the world. The

implications of all these facts on the national income and financial structure, are obvious.

The main conclusions that may be drawn from the working of Indian federal finance in peace and war are:

1. The whole system is regressive; consumption taxes forming the bulk of the revenue of the Provincial and Central Governments. Taxes on incomes form only 4% of the total, while taxes on real property account for 18% and of this the major part is land revenue which is 12% of the total revenue.

2. The revenue of the Central is largely from customs and Railways and thus the Centre also depends largely on consumption taxes.

3. Provincial Revenues are mainly from taxes on real property *i.e.*, 36%; land revenue, 31% and forests 4%; excise 17% stamps 12% and irrigation 11%.

4. Local revenues are derived from taxes on real property *i.e.*, on lands and houses to the extent of 35%.

5. A comparison with other tax systems shows there is not much scope for income and business taxation and Indian financial structure is to be based largely on consumption taxes and taxation of property of which land taxation is the most important. Subsidies from the Centre to the Provinces form 4% of the total revenue of the Provinces as compared with 8% in Canada. The problem therefore is not only of increasing the revenue but also of equitable adjustment.

Indian Women's Charter of Rights*

By MRS HANSA MEHTA

I shall briefly outline the salient features of a Women's Charter of Rights

Firstly we stand for the freedom of woman and her equality with man

Equality, however, is not to mean identity but equality of opportunity. A woman is as much a human being as man is. If freedom and equality are the basis of human development, woman must be entitled to share them with man. There should be no disability attached to her sex.

This idea should form the basis of the charter. It is gratifying to note that the preamble of the charter signed at San Francisco by the United Nations which includes India accepts this position of equality between man and woman.

The Indian National Congress passed a resolution on the fundamental rights as long ago as 1931.

No disability attaches to any citizen by reason of his or her religion, caste, creed or sex in regard to public employment, office of power or honour.

The National Planning Committee also says:

In a planned society woman's place shall be equal to that of man. Equal status, equal opportunities and equal responsibilities shall be the guiding principles to regulate the status of woman whatever the basis of society to the plan.

It is on this accepted basis of equality between man and woman that the charter which will define the rights and responsibilities of woman as an individual and as a member of society is to be prepared.

As an individual woman shall enjoy all the rights of, and shall be required to perform all the duties of, a citizen whether these rights are political, civic or economic. The State shall recognize the individual as the unit of

society and not the family. Woman, therefore, shall be enfranchised in her own rights and not as in relation to man.

The present basis of franchise which gives the woman the right to vote as a wife of a man with a certain income violates this principle and, therefore, cannot be accepted by us. We must reaffirm our demand for adult suffrage as the only way to enfranchise a larger number of women than we have today, which is one woman to four men when the population ratio is almost fifty fifty.

Women should be more and more associated with the administration of the country. I would also urge that besides putting up women candidates for the seats reserved for them, some women should be selected to stand from the general constituencies.

UPROOT ILLITERACY

Without education it is not possible for any one to understand his or her responsibility. We must, therefore, lay great emphasis on the right of every woman to be educated and we must demand the removal of such obstacles as for example child marriage, child labour or *pardah* which come in the way of her education.

The question as to what kind of education it is to be, will have to be carefully considered. The present educational system will not be a helpful guide in deciding the nature of our future education except in a negative way. It is evident that the present system is not very popular from the progress it has made. The Sargent scheme has recognised the necessity of overhauling the entire system and we must endorse that plea.

There are one or two things, however, we must make clear with regard to women's

* From the Presidential Address to the All India Women's Conference at Hyderabad (Sind).

education. It will have to be education that helps the fullest development of woman's personality and will train her to be a useful member of society.

Women shall have facilities for training for any profession or occupation that she may choose to follow. . . .

The question of co-education is also agitating the minds of the educationalists. Whatever its pros and cons, we must remember that ours is a poor country and we cannot afford the luxury of two separate institutions where one can serve the purpose.

HEALTH SERVICES

After education the most vital need is health. Every woman shall have facilities to maintain and protect her health. That a woman should have a right to health seems a very self-evident proposition and ordinarily would require no comment. But such self-evident propositions are not very evident in this country. It is clear that much requires to be done with regard to the improvement of public health.

The figures of maternal mortality in India are simply appalling. Dr. Miss Lazarus has shown in her pamphlet on our *Nursing Services* that more women die due to child bearing, which is a normal physiological function, than the number of men and women who die of plague, small-pox or cholera. One reason for this is lack of proper and adequate health services. The other reasons are lack of education, existence of social evils like child marriage and *purdah*, and lack of sanitary housing. Woman should have a right to better homes and better health services in order to save her from a life of toil and misery and an untimely death.

In this mammon-made world the worth of a person is reckoned on his or her economic status. It is in the economic sphere that woman will have to fight hard to establish her position. We must demand the right for every woman to work.

There are services from which married women are debarred. If a married woman accepts and abides by the conditions of service, there is no reason why she should be excluded.

There can be, however, exceptions to this rule. We would not like for instance women, and specially pregnant women, to be employed in heavy industries or in underground work in mines which would affect their health. Women will be required to take up such work as will help the country. . . .

Woman shall only have a right to work but work under the right conditions *i.e.* in relation to place of work, hours of work, pay, holidays, sickness allowance, maternity benefit, etc. The labour conditions in this country are far from satisfactory. The Conference has been urging for the necessary reforms, all these years. We have advocated insurance against sickness and asked for maternity benefits.

HOUSEWIFE'S ROLE

There is one type of work which has not been recognized so far to which I would like to draw your attention. It is the work of the housewife. She works from early morning till late at night. An average housewife hardly enjoys rest or holiday. And yet this work is not considered of value in that it is not productive and brings no return in the

shape of rupees, annas or pies. It is one of the reasons why there is a growing dislike among the educated and more awakened women for this kind of work, and they prefer to seek careers outside the home. It is time that the importance of this work was recognized and conditions of work improved.

The work of the housewife has recently been recognized in England as the Beveridge report includes it for the benefits under the Social Insurance scheme. If such a scheme is undertaken by the Government in this country we should see that the housewife's work gets recognition. Besides this the housewife should have a right to a part of her husband's income; she should have no feeling of dependence on man but realize that she can claim a portion of the income as hers by right, and, as a corollary the husband should have no right to dispose of his entire income without the consent of his wife.

RIGHT TO LEISURE

Every woman shall have a right to leisure. With the exception of a very

few women who belong to the upper rich in this country, the Indian woman does not enjoy much leisure. Her life is that of one, long drudgery. This is neither good for her health nor for her development as she hardly finds time to improve her mind. She has no time for cultural pursuits with the result that her life becomes drab and the home, of which she is the centre is without joy. A person without leisure is virtually a slave.

We must find ways and means to free the Indian woman from her life of slavery. It is by regulating the home life, providing amenities of life and providing labour saving devices, that we can solve this problem to a large extent. Organizing creches and infant schools is also a way to help the woman in looking after her children. The Kasturba Memorial Fund will do the greatest national service if they can evolve means to take off the heavy load of work which tends almost to crush the life out of the woman.

These are some of the important rights a woman should enjoy as an individual.

HISTORY OF SUGAR IN INDIA

BY MR B N ASTHANA

SUGAR has been manufactured in India since times immemorial. India being the original home of sugar cane and possessing half the world acreage the growth of the sugar industry in India forms a romantic chapter in the industrial progress of the country. Sheltered behind an adequate tariff wall the sugar industry has made phenomenal progress and has built up a thriving sugar industry in a

period of world wide Economic Depression. Within less than a decade of the grant of protection India became self sufficient as regards her requirements of sugar.

The earliest history of sugar in India is found in Bengal. About 35 B.C. Dioscorides said there is a kind of it, called *saccharon* which is found in reeds in India. Pliny in 77 A.D. describes sugar as being brought

to the west from Arabia and India and adds that the best quality was available in the latter country. Arian in 145 A.D. mentions sugar—honey from the reeds—as an article of trade between India and Red Sea ports. Thus sugar has not only been produced in India but has also been an article of commerce since very old times. Alexander Aphrodisiacus, in 212 A.D. said, "what the Indians called sugar was a concrete honey in reeds.....". Similarly, Marcopolo speaks of sugar as being found in Bengal in 1250 A.D. Systematic cultivation of sugar-cane and manufacture of sugar outside India dates only from the 16th century. In India, according to Am-i-Akbari, sugar industry was in a very flourishing stage even before the 16th century.

During the 17th and 18th centuries, sugar was being exported to foreign countries in large quantities. The export trade of sugar was carried on by the East India Co. The net profits on the imports into England from India earned by the Company amounted to about 50%. A better idea of the company's profits can be had from the following statement of the Company's profits quoted by an ancient authority.

	£
Coy's Imports in 1798.. 5242 Tons	90,682
Freight and Shipping	104,838
Duties	6,946
Charges on Sales	1,970
Total Cost.	£ 210,366
Gross amount received on sales	331,341
Less: Total Cost.	210,366
Net Profit (Approx. 50%)	114,945

As a natural consequence of such high rates of profits earned on the export of sugar, the amount of export increased. The following table serves to show the quantity exported in various years, by private traders.

Years.	Total Exp.		To Eng.		To America	
	£s.	Rs.	£s.	Rs.	£s.	Rs.
1796	8,20	180	3,05	051	1,28	171
1798	8,46	752	1,82	650	5,19	833
1800	23,89	691	6,98	067	6,50	340
1802	12,01	798	2,17	899	2,10	379
1804	10,71	360		072	8,53	313
1806	33,24	168	54	478	11,69	251

From the year 1800 to 1806 a fall in the figure of exports is in evidence. This was brought about partly by the increased business done by the E.I.Co., and partly by the increased production in the West Indies. It was in the 19th century that sugar ceased to be an article of export, but it had to be imported into India from foreign countries. The principal exporters to India were Mauritius and Java. The political manipulations of the British, French and Portuguese merchants to capture the sugar market of England hit the Indian manufacturers very hard. The East India Co., in their own interests, tried to keep up the exports, but they met with little success. Protective duty was imposed upon Indian sugar when it threatened to compete with the West Indies produce; the same step-motherly attitude has been responsible for the diminishing trend of exports noticed in 1800-6.

Things became still worse when in the year 1840 Beet sugar industry in Europe progressed with rapid strides. Tariff was applied against this bounty-fed sugar in America and India was made the

chief dumping ground. Scientific plantation of sugarcane was adopted in Java, and sugar of a better quality was the result. These factors inevitably cut India off from her many valuable markets in Europe. In less than half a century, the exports equalled the imports and it took another quarter of a century to turn India into an importer from an exporter of sugar. By the end of the 19th century, no less than 200 refineries had to be closed down in U. P. alone. A countervailing duty was imposed, but as there was no planned attempt to protect the Indian industry, the imposition was of no avail. The chief cause of the fall of price which was continuing since the last quarter of the 19th century was the unbridled foreign competition. Another cause was that the sugar was manufactured from 'gur' by crude and wasteful methods and was not found to be equal to the foreign produce in quality. The unit of production was small and the use of machinery was not popular. The Government did not permit the preparation of rum from molasses, which further diminished their profits.

The Indian sugarcane was thinner, contained lesser sucrose and the average yield per acre was so low that the produce of sugar could hardly meet the huge demand of the country, a large section of which is vegetarian.

It was not until the beginning of the 20th century that sporadic attempts were made at producing sugar on modern lines. The Agricultural Department of the Government of India are making vigorous efforts since 1901 to breed better varieties of cane and increase the yield. Dr

Barber's experiments have yielded better results. Red-rot resisting varieties have been introduced and attempts are being made to produce superior seedling by hybridisation between the canes of the North and South to suit the climate and agricultural methods of North India and give a better yield. The researches at the Imperial Research Institute at Coimbatore and the Provincial Cane-Breeding Stations and the cross-breeding of the sugarcane plants have resulted in the evolution of a number of improved varieties, taller, thicker, and containing greater sucrose. Some of the varieties evolved at the Cane-Breeding Station at Coimbatore like No 210, 213, and 214 have well established their superiority over the indigenous varieties, and now they command an area of about 4 million acres.

The history of the sugar industry in recent years has been a history largely of tariff and production. Before the grant of protection to the industry in 1932, the condition of the refined sugar industry was in an extremely deplorable state. Foreign competition, lack of efficient methods of production, and the low sucrose contents of sugarcane have all been a bar to the progress of the industry. In the year 1894, a small *ad valorem* duty of 5% was levied for revenue purposes only. The duty was raised to 10% in 1916, to 15% in 1921 and to 25% in 1922. This *ad valorem* duty was converted into a specific duty of Rs 4.8 per cent. in 1925, which was raised to Rs 6 per cent. in 1930 and to Rs 7.4 in 1931. The increasing duties on imports of sugar into India were

undertaken with a view to provide additional revenue to meet the budgetary deficit during the war and the post-war period. In the year 1919, the Indian Sugar Committee was appointed "for the organisation and development of sugar industry." The Committee recommended the establishment of a Sugar Research Institute. The Government have all along shown a strange antipathy to the Indian Sugar industry with regard to protection. But in the year 1929-30, at the instance of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, the Government adopted a definite policy with regard to the encouragement of the establishment of sugar factories by means of protective tariff. The question of protection was referred to the Tariff Board. The Board examined the case of the industry in the light of the conditions laid down by the Fiscal Commission. The Sugar Industry Protection Act of 1932 was passed. A protective duty of Rs. 7-4 per cent was imposed for 7 years and Rs. 6-4 thereafter for 8 years. It was further provided that the duties could be increased in case of necessity. The situation became much easier.

But, unfortunately, with a view to check a too rapid growth of the industry under artificial stimulus and in order to meet the loss of revenue to the Government from sugar imports, an Excise Duty was imposed from 1934 at the rate of 10 as. on Khandsari and Rs. 1-5 per cent. on factory-produced sugar. Besides, it was proposed to set aside from the proceeds of the Excise Duty an amount equivalent to one anna per cent, representing about

seven lakhs of Rupees, to be distributed among the Provinces with a view to assisting the organisation and operation of co-operative societies among the cane growers so as to help them in securing fair prices. An annual grant of Rupees Ten lakhs was to be given to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for research and help to both 'gur', and sugar. The import duty was raised to Rs. 7-12 per cent. and the surcharge on sugar imposed in 1931 was reduced from Rs. 1-13 to Rs. 1-5. The Duty was again reduced to Rs. 7-4 from February 1937 and surcharge of Rs. 2-0 was imposed on internally produced sugar. This made the total import duty on sugar Rs. 9-4. The Excise on Khandsari was also reduced to Re. 1. The Tariff Board in 1939 recommended the reduction of the Duty to Rs. 8-12 per cent., and the Excise on Khandsari to annas eight per cent. From the 1st March, 1940, the duty had again to be raised to Rs. 9-12 per cent. on account of an increase in the Excise from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3. Much stimulus was provided to the sugar industry from the protective tariff, but since the imposition of Excise, the production of Khandsari has gone down considerably.

The area under cultivation of sugar cane has kept pace with increased production: from 2,677,000 acres in 1929-30, it has increased to 4,132,000 acres 1936-37. In 1929-30, about 940,000 tons of sugar were imported into India, but since 1931-32, there has been a sharp decline in the quantity of imports and by the year 1936-37, the imports were reduced to 23,000 tons. The number of factories

increased from 29 in 1929 30 to 32 in 1931-32 and to 148 in 1940 41. A majority of these are situated in Bihar and U P, and in the year 1940 41 there were 71 factories in U P. and 32 in Bihar as against 14 and 12 respectively in 1932. Since the imposition of the tariff, the much needed stimulus was provided to the production of sugar in India. The production in the year 1929 30 was only 89,000 tons, which increased to 12 42 000 tons in 1940 41. The production of sugar in U P amounted to 659 500 tons and in Bihar to 322,100 tons in the same year. The rapid expansion in the industry brought about by the protection granted to it in 1932 naturally had its effect upon the imports of sugar in British India. The reduction in the amount of imports led to a saving of about Rupees 18 crores to the country and the Government revenues benefited to the extent of about Rupees 8 crores.

This phenomenal development in the sugar industry of India has been nothing short of a romance. The chief cause of it, as pointed out above, has been the grant of protection in 1932 but for which the development would not have been so rapid. Besides, there have been equally important causes for the growth of the industry. It was a period of world wide Economic Depression, the low prices of materials and machinery contributed in no mean way to the expansion of the industry. The low rates of interest further led to the development of the industry. Again, this period of Economic Depression was accompanied by low prices of land and there were improved facilities for irrigation

brought about by development in canals and tubewells, and the provision of cheap energy available in Hydro electricity. The industry has the advantage of cheap labour and transport and is localised in the heart of the sugar belt of the country. The area has a net work of railways providing easy and cheap transport for the material and distribution of finished products. Last but not the least, have been the efforts of the Imperial Sugar Institute. All these factors have contributed to the remarkable development of the industry. As a result, India is now the largest sugar producing country in the world. The capital invested in the industry is estimated to be between '25 and 30 crores.

The rapid expansion of the industry has given rise to a number of problems. Zoning of cane areas, regulation of cane supplies to factories, development of the quality of cane, fixing the minimum prices of cane, licensing of factories and contractors, supervision of weighments and payments, transport facilities, and the protection of labour, have all received their due attention from the Government.

Sugar industry is the most controlled industry in the country, especially in the two provinces of U P and Bihar. The Central Government, in order to regulate prices of sugar cane, passed the Sugar Cane Act of 1934 authorising the Provincial Governments to frame rules relating to control of prices, weighments and purchase of sugar. Prices in U P and Bihar were fixed on a sliding scale method based on the recommendations of the Mehta Committee of 1938 which contained the representatives of both the

growers and manufacturers. Rules were framed for the marketing of the produce and inspectors were appointed to supervise the work. Further efforts of the Government in this direction are marked by the Sugar Factories Control Act of 1938 embodying the following:—

- (a) The licensing of sugar factories.
- (b) the regulation of sugar-cane supplies to factories.
- (c) the establishment of a Sugar Control Board and Advisory Committees
- (d) the minimum price of sugarcane.
- (e) a cess on the sale of sugar cane.

The measures adopted by the Government, particularly after 1938, provided much stimulus to the industry and were taken with a view to solve the manifold problems relating to the industry arising as a result of the rapid expansion of the industry.

The industry had to face a crisis in her development twice—once in the year 1937 and the second time in 1940. In 1937 it was expected that the price of sugar-cane would continue to rise. Consequently the acreage under cultivation increased considerably and reached the record figure of 4.5 million acres. The production of sugar amounted to 12,30,000 tons, whereas the estimated consumption was 11,50,000 tons. The over-production resulted in a fall of price. In order to check brisk internal competition and over-production and the consequent diminishing profits, the Sugar Syndicate was formed and Sugar Control Acts were passed.

The international Sugar Agreement signed in 1937 in utter disregard of the interests of the industry in India banned the export of sugar by sea except to Burma. This meant the denial to India of the right to sell her produce to the neighbouring countries of the Middle East, during the years of over-production. In the year 1939-40, when there was record production of sugar, India could very well export a few lakhs of tons of sugar, which she was unable to do on account of the International Sugar Convention. This

resulted in a serious slump in the industry. The industry found itself in the grip of a very serious crisis in 1940.

The industry has been subjected to severe handicaps and it is in spite of these that it emerged successfully out of the crisis and to-day claims to be the second largest industry of India. The levy of a high Excise Duty and the lack of co-ordination between the Central and Provincial Governments have hampered the growth of the industry at every stage. A common and uniform policy with regard to the fixation of cane prices was not followed, which caused the cycle of fluctuations in the area under cane cultivation leading to the years of under-production and over-production. The Government did not assist the industry by arranging export by sea in 1940 when the high price of sugar led to over-production. Had the Government risen to the occasion, the crisis of 1940 could have been averted. It was, further, argued that the Government did not permit the preparation of power alcohol from the molasses which could have produced 24 million gallons out of the 34 lakh tons of molasses which now annually go to waste.

The Indian sugar industry is now the second largest industry, next in importance only to the Cotton Textile industry. It is one of the greatest national assets of the country. Sheltered behind an adequate tariff wall, the industry has made phenomenal progress and provides employment to nearly 1½ lakhs of workers including about 3,000 graduates in Arts, Science, Commerce and Engineering. The industry has not only saved millions of our money from going abroad, but has brought positive gain to the doors of millions of agriculturists and labours, not to speak of a very large number of share-holders in the industry. The industry has a great future before it. The rise in standard of living envisaged by the Bombay Plan is bound to give impetus to the industry.

WHY THE HINDUSTANI MOVEMENT?

By PRINCIPAL S N AGARWAL

General Secretary, Hindustani Prachar Sabha, Wardha

EVER since the resignation of Mahatma Gandhi from the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan there has been a great deal of controversy in regard to the Hindi and Hindustani movements. Babu Purushottamdas Tandon and the Sammelan insist that Hindi alone should be the national language and Nagri the national script, while Gandhiji and the Hindustani Prachar Sabha maintain that Hindustani, which is the simple style of both Hindi and Urdu should be studied as national scripts. The Sammelan argues that Hindi is an old name given by the Muslims to the language of Northern India. It contains many words of Sanskrit origin which are easily understood in other Indian provinces. Nagri is more scientific and convenient than the Persian script. Hence the Sammelan stresses the desirability of patronising Hindi and Nagri.

Mahatma Gandhi favours the term Hindustani, firstly because it was adopted by the Indian National Congress as early as 1925 at the Cawnpore session. Secondly, the terms Hindi and Urdu have unfortunately developed communal associations with the result that the Hindi style is being increasingly Sanskritised and the Urdu style steadily burdened with Arabic and Persian words. It is, therefore, necessary to evolve and develop a simple style in the form of Hindustani which would be a happy fusion of both Hindi and Urdu. It must be borne in mind that the Rashtra Bhasha is meant to unite and not to divide the component elements of the Indian Nation. Hindi alone or

Urdu alone is no longer in a position to serve the purpose. This is a stern fact and it is no use repudiating it. Hindustani can find a sympathetic echo in the hearts of both the Hindi and Urdu speaking population. Moreover, the Hindi and Urdu style have grown too heavy and cumbersome; the masses for whom the national language is really meant can feel at home only with the simple Hindustani.

Thus the Hindustani movement is not against Hindi and Urdu which are free to cultivate their respective literatures, Hindustani seeks to develop a third style by trying to bridge the gaping gulf between the two. By dint of its simplicity, catholicity and goodwill, this common style should be our Rashtra Bhasha. The Hindustani style is still existent in both Hindi and Urdu literatures, but it needs definite and well organised stimulus and encouragement.

It must, however, be made clear that we do not regard the language of the All India Radio as Hindustani. It is pure and simple Urdu.

Further, Gandhiji has been stressing the need of learning both the Nagri and Urdu scripts. And the reasons are not far to seek. If a natural style of Hindustani is to be evolved, it is necessary that an increasing number of our countrymen should try to learn both the Hindi and Urdu styles. This is the only practical way of narrowing the widening differences between the two streams. No person or institution, however great or representative, can dare ^{use} language. True Hindustani

must be the spontaneous expression of those national-minded citizens who have cared to familiarise themselves with both Hindi and Urdu.

It is impossible to be well conversant with the Hindi and Urdu styles without learning both the Nagri and Urdu scripts. This is as plain as pike-staff. Hence Gandhiji's emphasis on the desirability of knowing the two scripts of Hindustani. More-over, if the English language and the Roman scripts are to be successfully dislodged from their present position of undue importance, we must be well up in both the Nagri and Urdu scripts. Otherwise, the help of English or the Roman script for mutual intercourse will have to be sought on many occasions.

Those who plead for the Roman script in place of Nagri and Urdu do not know national psychology. It is now as evident as the Himalayas that neither the Hindus nor the Muslims are prepared to give up Nagri and Urdu scripts. Therefore, for

the sake of closer social and cultural contacts between the Hindus and the Muslims, the knowledge of the two scripts is highly desirable. Those who are conversant with only Nagri should try to learn Urdu and those who only know Urdu should make it a point to learn Nagri.

But the question of compulsion does not arise. The movement sponsored by the Hindustani Prachar Sabha is purely voluntary; it is an appeal and a request and not a mandate or order. The Sabha believes that the salvation of the country lies in the popularisation of both the Nagri and Urdu scripts. Those who share this belief are welcome to take the Hindustani examination of the Sabha in both the styles and the scripts. Who can compel those who do not desire to do so? It must not be forgotten for a single moment that the Hindustani movement is a movement of love, goodwill and tolerance. The movement is only a means to an end, namely national unity and solidarity.

DEVELOP INDUSTRIES OR PERISH

BY SIR M VISVESVARAYA

WORLD trends at the close of the War seem full of evil portents. It has been remarked that we are moving into a dangerous new world; it is too soon, however, to lose ourselves in pessimism.

The population is growing rapidly but it is not equipped with up-to-date knowledge of world conditions or with modern tools and practices which reduce cost of production.

The average value of work done per head of population is so low and poor that it makes living precarious. It is less than one-tenth of what one finds among some of the more advanced populations of the West and in the Dominions of the British Commonwealth.

The intelligent citizen should think for himself and form a clear idea of the reasons which keep the average Indian so poor. One reason he will find is that

the latter does not work hard enough or with discipline and he is not equipped with any technical skill or useful business habits worth mentioning and he has not learnt the use of modern machinery to produce commodities cheap or to get speedy results of any kind by mechanical power.

Machinery and machine tools which progressive nations use and business methods which industrial nations practise are not known in this country on account of absence of mass education and business training. The great bulk of the population is not acquainted with modern conditions of work and existence. India is very rich in man power and human talent but this potential huge force is kept idle through lack of elementary education and political power. In addition to these drawbacks, custom and convention which are not corrected by education, play their part in keeping the people idle. More than three-fourths of the population are victims to old habits and the traditions of by-gone days. It should be added that for carrying on the functions of a democratic government, we have a larger number of literate population in India than there is in Great Britain itself.

To the masses of the uneducated population, progress and prosperity are a matter of chance or a gift from heaven and not the result of human regulation and effort.

In these circumstances, attempts should be made to create conditions favourable to mass thinking and collective effort. No intelligent adult citizen should be allowed to

remain illiterate or incapable of building up his thoughts and business activities wisely to secure for himself and family satisfactory living conditions. Nor should he be without knowledge or incentive to render some disinterested social service to his neighbours and countrymen according to his gifts or resources as a token of his contribution to the building up of a prosperous and happy India.

At present the popular mind is disturbed. The present-day unrest in India is a healthy discontent with a stagnant state of affairs. Political power in the form of Dominion Status was promised so long ago as 1917, but the people have not yet obtained the necessary democratic power to plan their own future or to give attention to the country's higher needs. Unless this comes about and people achieve a political position to enable them to look after their own interests, their hardships will not abate or cease to grow.

Owing to political conditions, growth of industries has been particularly slow for several generations past. Why industries are of supreme importance for raising the income of the people at the present time is that there is a local market for the products of industries, and promotion of industries, besides bringing profit to business circles, provides employment to large numbers of the working population.

Only about 10 per cent of the population of India obtain employment in industries and of this, not more than 3 per cent find a place in organized industries. In most progressive countries, occupations are balanced according to experience and agriculture provides

occupation for not more than 33 per cent. of the population; whereas in India, in the absence of industries, nearly 70 per cent. have to eke out a living from agriculture.

Wherever occupations under agriculture, industries, transport, etc., are developed on sound lines, industries are found to be more profitable than agriculture. Agriculture is necessary for living conditions, but industries make for efficiency and prosperity. There can be no civilized life without adequate industrial activities.

The result of mass illiteracy and inadequate growth of industries and other gainful occupations has been that the work done per worker per day in India is estimated to average less than 0.5 H.P. hours as compared with 6 and 13 H.P. hours respectively in the two most industrially developed countries of the world, namely, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

In these circumstances, the proper course to take for the next ten years is to concentrate attention on industries and manufactures and their other subsidiary activities. If there is any misapprehension or doubt in this matter, it should be removed by investigation and discussion in open meetings and in the public press. So long as the public view of this matter continues to be hazy, people will continue to be apathetic and careless of their future. No citizen can forget the record of deaths from starvation that took place on the Calcutta side in 1943. Even to-day deaths from destitution are not uncommon in that part of the country.

In the present impoverished condition of India, there is no remedy but through industries. The cry should go forth in this post-war period in every nook and corner of the country; "Develop Industries or Perish".—*Address to Sixth All India Manufacturers' Conference, Madras.*

WAR AND WORDS

BY MR. GAYA PRASAD RASTOGI,

Calcutta

DURING the recent War many new words became popular. Many words have been so much advertised that even ordinary people understand the meanings of those words. A few words have become so popular in villages also that people do not know their substitutes in their mother tongue.

* *A.R.P. Fe., Air Raid Precaution*:—This was deeply connected with black-out. Who did not hear during the dark days of 1942

and 1943 of A.R.P. whistles, sirens, wardens and shelters etc? We owe A.R.P. entirely to the war.

Black-out:—Two years back, it was difficult for a person to walk in the lanes without a torch in his hand; but torch was also forbidden by the Government. The street lights were either altogether off or were very dim and covered by special black covers allowing only a little light just below. This was known as black-out.

All the houses and buildings were also subjected to similar black-out regulation so that the enemy could not see their targets from the sky.

Control:—Almost every man or grown up child is acquainted with this word these days. The word "Control" existed before the war, but now it has a special meaning. A commodity whose price has been fixed by the Government and whose supply has been controlled is called "Controlled" commodity. The system of "Control" is now known throughout the country.

Permit:—Permit is now too well known as an instrument to get certain things to need any discussion.

Ration:—Not only do the military people get ration these days, but civilians also get their ration of various articles and commodities *i.e.*, grain, cloth, petrol etc. This word has given us several other words *i.e.*, T.R.O. (Town Rationing Officer), A.R.O. (Area Rationing Officer).

D. I. R.:—Defence of India Rules is a ready weapon in the hands of Government officials to fight the people with. The trials under this D.I.R. are summary, if special permission from the Higher Court is not obtained. The Government officials must be sorry to learn of the prospect of the death of the all powerful D.I.R.

Now I come to those words that are known to those who are interested in newspapers.

Black market:—This word is not only connected with businessmen but with all. It means that a certain article is being sold above the controlled rates. Not only during war days, but even at present many commo-

dities are not available in the market. One who needs such commodities urgently pays higher price for them. The paying and taking of prices above the controlled prices is called black-marketing.

Blitz:—Another German word. It means any action with great rapidity *i.e.*, Herr Hitler made a blitz towards Russia and Poland. Now-a-days the word is well known.

Camouflage:—Literally it means a whiff of smoke thrown on the face of a person. In war language it means deceiving the enemy by clever devices so as to prevent him from seeing things like motor-trucks, barracks, stores, etc.

Fifth Column:—The term "fifth column" originated from the Spanish civil war before the last world war and was meant to indicate a huge group of Spanish people secretly siding the enemy of the nation. It has therefore acquired the meaning of a hostile and secret party within the country.

Gestapo:—This is a German word. In Germany, Hitler kept a secret police organisation which was named "Gestapo". Its duty was to see that no Government man was siding with the enemy. The leader of the party in Germany was Herr Himmler.

Infiltration:—Somehow or other this word has the same meaning as the word "Fifth Column". But one who joins the fifth column is called a fifth columnist. During the war, residents of one country settled secretly, some in the garb of soldiers and some in the garb of businessmen. They "infiltrated" in those countries.

Lebensraum:—This is also a German word. The word literally means breathing space. This was the pretext of Herr Hitler

for attacking Poland in the year 1939. He said that there were so many men in Germany that there was no breathing space for them; so he wanted breathing space for them.

Morale:—The I.N.A. heroes are at present undergoing trials, imprisonment and other hardships, but undoubtedly their morale is excellent, for they are always loud in praising their Netaji and the ideals for which the Indian National Army was organised.

Sabotage:—It comes from "Sabot", a French word for a heavy wooden shoe used by farmers. Sabotage means destroying or undermining something vehemently. In this war, the word became very popular and

often we read in the newspapers of the sabotage activities of the Axis powers against the Allies.

Torpedo:—Torpedo is a small boat, which goes inside the water and is so very powerful that it destroys big ships. Now-a-days the word has become very popular and it means to destroy any scheme or proposal.

Quisling:—Who can dare say that he does not know this gentleman? He was a Norwegian Minister. He deceived his country. So he who deceives his own party can be easily called a Quisling. The Indian Communists are quislings to the Indian National Congress. Quisling was executed recently.

INDIA'S FOOD PROBLEM*

BY PROF. M. AFZUL HUSAIN

—:o:—

○F the many problems of peace none is more important than the food supply of the world. In Europe, in the Far East and in our own country there is food shortage. Even in pre-war days a large majority of the world's population were underfed. To secure for all peoples freedom from want is a responsibility of the United Nations. Towards this end a Food and Agricultural Organisation has been set up by the Hot Springs Conference.

In so far as the food problem of India is concerned, the first difficulty we are up against is the lack of accurate statistical data

This makes efficient agricultural planning impossible.

FOOD REQUIREMENTS

What are our requirements of food? What will they be in the immediate future? In 1941 India's population was 389 millions as against 338 millions a decade previously. At this rate of increase the population is 415 millions today. It is estimated that by 1970 the population will be 650 millions. The country must be prepared for such a situation unless some calamity befalls, reducing our population and solving the problem for us!

What are our food resources today? Have they kept pace with the increase in popula-

* Address to Indian Science Congress at Bangalore, 24-1945.

tion? Since 1911 seven million acres have been added to the area under cultivation. But the area sown per capita has declined from 0.9 to 0.72 acres, that is, by 25 per cent. Even for an emergency-restricted diet, designed to tide over difficult times 1.2 acres of land per capita under cultivation is regarded as the minimum in the U.S.A. where crop yields are higher per acre than in India. For a population of 400 million India must increase her production by 10 per cent in cereals, by 20 per cent in pulses, by 25 per cent. in fats and oils, by 50 per cent. in fruits, 100 per cent. in vegetables 800 per cent. in milk, and 300 per cent in fish, flesh and eggs. These figures are overwhelming in that these increases are required to meet the proper nutritional needs of the existing population. Further increases will be required for an increased population!

What is the solution of the problem? We have either to increase the supply or reduce the demand. Reduction of demand means reducing population and there are some who think this to be the best solution. But it is not a practicable proposition in the present circumstances in this country. Others hold the view that the problem is not one of over-population but of under-development of natural resources and their inadequate utilisation. However our food position is so acute that neither population reduction nor agrico-biology can bring immediate results. And, the time factor is important.

CARBO-HYDRATES

At present over 72 per cent of the carbohydrates of human food are derived from cereals, about 20 per cent. from

sugarcane and the balance mainly from from pulses. India, with 90 per cent. of her cultivated area under food crops and 64 per cent under cereals, is short of rice. Unless there can be a rapid increase in yields or in the area under cereals, both unlikely, India must produce per acre quantities of carbohydrates much in excess of what the cereals can yield. This only tubers can do. Potato, sweet potato, and cassava are already being grown in India. In all countries where population has increased cereals have been replaced by tubers. In most European countries potatoes and cereals supply in equal proportions the carbohydrate requirements of human diet. As regards food value, tubers are richer in carbohydrates, mineral matter and calcium, although they are poorer than cereals in proteins and deficient in fats. The greatest advantage of tubers over cereals is the yield per acre. An acre of potato will provide a quantity of carbohydrates at least four times that of wheat. Sweet potato and cassava will provide 5 times. The superiority of rice and wheat in comparison with tubers is their high protein content. But there is no reason why India should persist in obtaining protein supply from cereals and not from sources from which protein can be produced more effectively and economically.

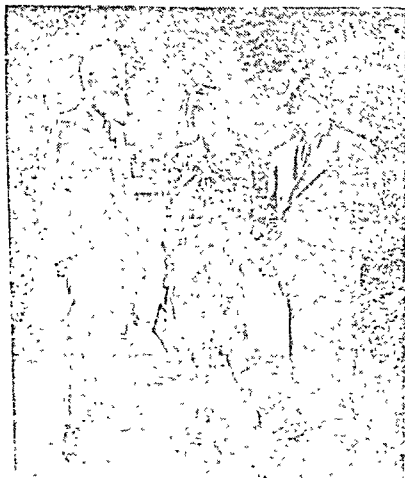
If India could grow cereals and tubers in the same proportions as pre war Germany, namely, 4 to 1, she could supply in full her present requirements of carbohydrates from an acreage equal to 60 per cent. of the present acreage

under cereals. If tubers present difficulties of transport and storage these can be overcome by employing modern methods of dehydration and cold storage. The area thus released from cereals would permit the acreage under pulses to be increased and the acreage under edible oilseed and fodder to be doubled. . . .

Food technology should be studied systematically and developed. At present

there is a great wastage of nutritional matter due to wrong methods of processing food and preparation.

Although I have emphasised the application of scientific knowledge in food production, it should be remembered that research in pure science lays the true foundation of knowledge and this alone can help us to progress in technology.



This picture shows Vivien Leigh with Bernard Shaw and Gabriel Pascal, discussing the film version of Shaw's famous play "Caesar and Cleopatra". Vivien Leigh will play the part of Cleopatra; and Gabriel Pascal is producing the film.

INDIAN STATES FORGING AHEAD

—(0)—

THE VICEROY'S ASSURANCE TO PRINCES

H.E. LORD WAVELL, addressing the Chamber of Princes which met at Delhi last month, after an interval of nearly two years, gave an assurance on one of the main points of difference which led to the crisis of 1944, namely, treaty rights and relationship with the crown. The assurance was a qualified one, with a slight but unmistakable shift of emphasis regarding the Princes' part in constitution making. "I can assure you," said the Viceroy, "there is no intention on our part to initiate any change in this relationship or these rights without your consent."

I am confident that Your Highnesses will through your accredited representatives take your full share in the preliminary discussions, which were announced in my broadcast of September 19 as well as in the intended constitution making body, and that your consent to any changes which emerge as a result of these negotiations will not unreasonably be withheld.

I am also confident that in your approach to problems you will have no intention or desire to stand in the way of the growth of India to its full stature or to hinder the political, economic or social progress and advancement of your subjects.

Speaking of States whose finance is inadequate, Lord Wavell suggested that it was incumbent upon them to modify the constitutional position so as to ensure the welfare of their subjects for the future. In order that these States might have political stability, adequate financial resources and effective association of the people with the administration, he strongly urged that they should arrange to join a larger unit or combine with other small states to form a political entity of a sufficient size.

The long term instance was the management of India's water supplies in which direction lay India's best way to progress. In many of the schemes now under consideration for final control, for irrigation, for navigation for hydro electric power, the Provinces of British India and States were closely concerned and it was essential that they should work in close co operation so that unified development could take place.

The Viceroy touched on the importance of gradually approximating taxation policies

and systems in Indian States with those of British India.

Referring to the economic problems, the Viceroy said

It is my earnest aim and will be my constant endeavour that the interests of the States should receive the same attention and sympathy from the Government of India in the process of development as the Provinces of British India. I am also sure that the States will afford that same measure of cordial co operation in controls and in Planning as they have given in the past.

THE VICEROY'S LAST BROADCAST

In this connection, it may be of interest to recall the Viceroy's words, broadcast on September 19 under instructions from the British Government.

It is the intention of His Majesty's Government to convene as soon as possible a constitution making body, and as a preliminary step they have authorised me to undertake immediately after the elections discussions with representatives of the Legislative Assemblies in the Provinces, to ascertain whether the proposals contained in the 1912 declaration are acceptable or whether some alternative or modified scheme is preferable.

His Excellency said that discussions should also be undertaken with representatives of the Indian States with a view to ascertaining in what way they could best take their part in the constitution making body. The Viceroy added

His Majesty's Government have further authorised me as soon as the results of the Provincial elections are published, to take steps to bring an Executive Council which will have the support of the main Indian parties.

THE PRINCES' DECLARATION

The Chamber of Princes, meeting on January 18 took an important step forward by a declaration on behalf of all members through its Chancellor H. H. The Nawab of Bhopal, promising popular Assemblies with elected majorities suitable to the special circumstances in India to day, rule of law, security of person and property and a number of fundamental rights of citizenship, including *habeas corpus*, free expression of opinion, equality before law, abolition of racial and religious discrimination and also forced labour—an impressive list of reforms, which the Chancellor

said, would be put through without undue delay. Every thinking Indian, claimed His Highness, whether prince or peasant, wanted the achievement of her goal by India, which would make her free, great and respected in the world. This declaration, he said, was intended to record the intention of the Princes to make every effort to settle the Indian problem on a just and reasonable basis. An impartial and competent Judiciary, independent of the Executive, would hereafter undertake the administration of justice, and administrative budgets of States, as distinguished from personal expenditure of the Rulers; the incidence of taxation would be fair and equitable and place appropriate emphasis on nation-building departments.

NEW CONSTITUTION FOR TRAVANCORE

H. H. The Maharaja of Travancore and his Dewan, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, are to be congratulated on the lead they have given to the States by the scheme of political reforms just announced. A press *communiqué* states that it is modelled on the constitution of the United States of America in the matter of relations between the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. Briefly stated, the scheme adumbrates the establishment of a bicameral legislature fully elected and without a shred of the nominated element which

will have jurisdiction over the entire field of Government, barring certain topics like the status and property of the sovereign and members of his family, external and political relations, devanams and management and control of Hindu Religious Endowments and armed forces. Subject to the right of veto on grounds to be publicly announced, agreed decisions of the legislature will be accepted by Government.

The noteworthy feature of the legislature is that its representatives in the lower house will be elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage for men and women and "without recourse to any reservations or weightages, communal or otherwise." The upper house will be functional in character and will represent the various trades and professions. The *as* of Travancore will be appointed by

the Ruler and hold office during his pleasure and will be irremovable. The relevant paragraph in the Proclamation relating to the status of the Dewan states:

Neither the Dewan nor any member of the executive Government will be removable by a vote of the legislature, though, as already stated, they will carry out agreed decisions and resolutions in the legislature unless veto is imposed on stated grounds.

REFORMS IN BHOPAL

In tune with the spirit of reform that is abroad, H. H. The Nawab of Bhopal has also announced important constitutional changes in his state in a Birthday "Firman."

In view of my policy that administration and legislation should be in accordance with the wishes and requirements of the people and in their best and truest interest, as also that the fullest scope should be given to my own people to serve the State, I had ordered my Government to provide for a closer and fuller association of the people with the administration.

The following recommendations made by his Government have been sanctioned by him.

That the franchise may be suitably extended and an elected majority provided in the Legislature; fresh elections may be held as soon as the necessary electoral rolls have been compiled according to the extended franchise after the next session of the Legislative Council; the Consultative Committees of elected members of the new Legislative Council may be set up to advise Government departments in matters of administration and the selection of candidates for appointment to Government services may be entrusted to a Public Service Commission.

PANDIT NEHRU'S REACTION

Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the All-India States People's Conference, welcomed the Princes' Declaration of rights as "a definite sign of the times and of realisation of the big changes that are coming to India in the near future." Mr. Nehru added, however, that declarations by themselves did not go far but he did not wish to lessen the significance of the present declaration.

Mr. Nehru also added that he was glad of the many progressive features in the Travancore scheme.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY 'AN INDIAN JOURNALIST'

The New Speaker

THE election of Mr G V Mavlankar as President of the Central Legislative Assembly, though by a narrow majority, is a decisive victory for the Congress and the popular cause Mr Mavlankar brings to his new task considerable experience as President of the Bombay Legislative Assembly during its tenure He had a formidable opponent in Sir Cowasji Jehangir, a nominated member who had the support of the Government and the Muslim League We can easily dismiss the League's pose of safeguarding minority interests as a puerile afterthought, as everyone knows its main objective is to thwart the Congress at every step and any stick is good enough for that purpose But the Government's behaviour was as indiscreet as it is reprehensible For, to nominate a non official and then get him elected Speaker with the help of the official bloc and the nominated votes is tantamount to nominating the President—a retrograde step that would have taken the Assembly back to the twenties That ugly situation was averted by the wise action of Sir Ardeshir Dalal and the few who chose to remain neutral

In refreshing contrast to the attitude of the Muslim League was the action of the Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who directed the election of Sir Mohammed Yamin Khan, nominee of the Muslim League, as Deputy President of the House

Responding to a message from the Congress President, Sardar Mangal Singh withdrew his candidature It is stated that Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in coming to this decision felt that the Congress should set a better example as against the League which opposed the election of Mr Mavlankar

The Viceroy's Address

Lord Wavell's first address to the new Central Legislature was remarkable for its brevity There is no beating about the bush as is usual in Viceregal utterances on such occasions, and we welcome his plain statements as a refreshing change from the platitudinous performances of his predecessor It is true that His Excellency frankly told his audience that he had not come to make 'any novel or striking political announcement' but he added significantly enough that His Majesty's Government "have a determination to establish a new Executive Council formed from the political leaders, and to bring about a constitution making body or convention as soon as possible" We like the statement in this categorical form without any of those impossible conditions attached to make it perfectly vapid If this means that attempts to delay or thwart the main purpose of the recent elections will not be tolerated, it is a welcome gesture which will be heartily reciprocated

Cripps offer a dead letter

Major Wyatt, a member of the British Parliamentary Delegation, is reported to have said in Bombay that the "Cripps offer is now a dead letter It bears no relation to present day conditions in India and is 'completely out of date'. Indeed it was out of date long ago Gandhi meant the same thing when he dismissed it with the cryptic remark that it was 'a post dated cheque' Any idea that the Cripps proposal is acceptable to Indians is foolish", says Major Wyatt 'The British Government has to think in terms of something entirely fresh and something new.'

Is Islam in Danger?

We commend the straight talk given by Capt. Shah Nawaz to a gathering of Muslims at Delhi the other day. Deprecating the cry of "Islam in Danger" raised by a section of Mahomedans who follow the League's lead, Capt. Shah Nawaz pointed out:

Islam is really in danger in Palestine, Iran and Indonesia, where Muslim majority nationalists are being suppressed by British bayonets. Those who raise this cry in India are really a fifth column of Britain and are delaying the freedom of the country.

He said the friends of Islam were those who condemned the use of Indian troops against Indonesia, for Capt. Schegal revealed:

Indians are held in contempt in all the south-east Asiatic countries for Britain had been using Indian troops; for suppressing their freedom movements.

The Late Mr. J. N. Basu

The public life of Bengal and indeed of all India is the poorer by the death of Mr. Jatindranath Basu, the well-known Liberal leader of Calcutta, at the age of 74. A nephew of the late Bhupendranath Basu, one of the leaders of an earlier generation of Congressmen, Jatindranath came of a reputed political family. For nearly half a century he was associated with various public activities to which he addressed himself with a zeal and thoroughness which made him universally popular. Mr. Basu was a Liberal in his political convictions and was identified with the Liberal party with its more progressive section. He was indeed one of the founders of the Liberal Federation and presided over one of its Annual Sessions.

At the two Round Table Conferences which he attended as a delegate, he sought

to achieve for this country, equality of status and functions with the British Dominions. He was noted for his burning passion to apply Liberal principles to the solution of the social and economic problems which face this country.

Gandhiji's visit to Madras

After a lapse of nine years, Gandhiji was again in our midst last month in connection with the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Hindi Prachar Sabha. His ten days' stay in Madras was the occasion for boundless rejoicings, and people flocked to hear him and for *darshan*, in their tens of thousands. For the first time, Madras was privileged to participate in his public prayers, so long a novelty to the city. In all his talks—his public engagements kept him busy all through the day and far into the night—he emphasised the same old teachings he has taught all along—non-violence and the study of Hindustani and the prosecution of his constructive programme. It was good to see Gandhiji as active and cheerful as ever, at his great age. The British delegation who met him the other day were deeply impressed by the visit. "I found Mr. Gandhi endowed with an extremely brilliant and comprehensive mind, with a fund of humour", remarked Major Wyatt. Mr. Hopkins Morris who had seen him at the Round Table Conference in London, thought "he looks younger and fitter." "I hope when I am 75, I will be as healthy, clean and physically fit as Mr. Gandhi," said Mr. Bottomley. To Mr. Sorensen the visit was a memorable one.

"We may or may not agree," he said, "with the specific ideas he explains, but we certainly cannot ignore or evade the impact of his vivid personality. He belongs to India and we are bound to appreciate this, if we would understand the soul of India."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY CHRONICLER"

Food Situation in Britain

THE worsening of the food situation in Britain, which will necessitate further cuts in rations, and which has led the Opposition to try and arrange a full dress debate in Parliament on the food situation, has culminated in the despatch of a telegram from the British Premier, Mr Attlee, to the Australian Prime Minister Mr Chifley appealing for increased food exports from Australia.

The telegram was described by the Australian Minister of Commerce, Mr William Scully, as an "alarming document

De Valera's Attitude to Britain

Prime Minister Eamon de Valera speaking at Waterford on January 29 when the Freedom of the City was conferred on him, warned the people that they would be wrong to think Eire hated Britain. His own attitude, he said, was one of love.

He added

All we wanted was to establish foundations on which we could live side by side together as good friends. That is my position to-day—as it was 30 years ago. Once the rights of the Irish Nation are recognised and established then we recognise that with Britain as our nearest neighbour, there are many things we have in common and we are prepared to co-operate with Britain in things in which we should co-operate. If Britain wants to co-operate on that basis, she can have it gladly.

Soviet-British Compromise

The complete deadlock in the Security Council on the Greek issue was resolved on February 6 due to the spirit of compromise shown, both by M. Andrei Vyshinsky, the chief Russian delegate and by Mr Ernest Bevin the British Foreign Minister.

The Council finally decided to declare the matter closed, no formal resolution that the presence of British troops in Greece did not constitute a threat to peace being considered necessary.

Sarawak to be Crown Colony

The British Government have accepted the proposal of Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, Rajah of the North Borneo Independent State of Sarawak, that Sarawak should now be ceded to the British Crown.

Announcing this in the House of Commons, the Colonial Secretary, Mr George Hall, emphasised that no pressure had been exerted on the Rajah. It was at his request that the cession was to take place.

Mr Hall added that the cession must not actually take place until full consultation with a properly constituted State Council of Sarawak had been held. Documents were now being drawn up to effect the cession. It was expected that the Rajah would visit the State in March, to consult with the Supreme State Council. The Status of Sarawak, if ceded, would be that of a Crown Colony.

All Party Agreement in China

Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek has since announced the death-knell of the one party Koumintang rule in China in favour of a democratic government when he instructed the Standing Committee of the Central executive committee of the Koumintang to accept the results and decisions of the all party political consultative conference.

New Cabinet of France

Gen de Gaulle having resigned, M. Felix Gouin has now completed his Cabinet. He himself is to be not only head of the Government but Minister of National Defence just as General Charles de Gaulle was.

The New Government consists of 20 Ministers and 4 Under Secretaries of State as compared with 22 Ministers in General de Gaulle's Cabinet. It contains 6 communists, 7 Socialists, 6 M. R. P. and 1 non party man.

MALAYA By G S Rawlings Oxford
Pamphlets on Indian Affairs No 29 As 6
We get a brief and informative account of the history of Malaya, its peoples, their customs and manners, the administration, economic resources and education in this booklet by G S Rawlings who writes with much sympathy and understanding. The effects of the Japanese invasion and the political future of the country are also discussed by the author who pleads for unity among the diverse communities inhabiting the peninsula.

MARSHAL TITO MICHAEL PADEV
Thacker & Co Bombay Rs 4 12
Michael Padev, the well known Balkan journalist tells here the thrilling story of Yugoslavia's famous soldier and statesman. With deep insight and understanding he describes Tito's childhood his early struggles and set backs as an underground labour organiser, and his success in building up the Yugoslav Liberation Front. The author has presented here an authentic, moving and human portrait of the Yugoslav Marshal and has also pointed out the essential significance of Tito's political leadership.

IDEAS HAVE LEGS By Peter Howard
Thacker & Co, Bombay Pp 143
Rs 5 8

Peter Howard is an entertaining Journalist who has something to say about the march of ideas and knows how to say it with power and point. In this lucid and readable book we get something about the philosophy and outlook of the men who shape our life on this planet. His studies of Churchill, Beaverbrook, Lenin and a host of others are acutely critical and penetrating.

POST WAR EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION
By Hansa Mehta Pratibha Publication
No 4. As 12

In this short pamphlet Mrs Hansa Mehta outlines a scheme for educational reconstruction in post war India. She points out that educational reconstruction can only be a part of national reconstruction and analyses the merits and defects of the Sargent plan and underlines the educational needs and requirements of a free India. She also reviews the problems that arise in regard to women's education and concludes that no social changes can be effected unless power is transferred to people by the ruling authorities.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- TRANSFORMATION OF SIKHISM** By Sir Gokul Chand Narang Foreword by Sir Jogendra Singh New Book Society Post Box 47, Lahore
- IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE** By K M Gururaja Rao The Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, Bangalore City
- OCEAN FRONT** The story of the war in the Pacific 1941-44 Oxford University Press 14s
- FREEDOM UNDER PLANNING** By Barbara Wootton George Allen & Unwin Ltd London
- WORLD IN TRANCE** By Leopold Schwarzschild Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay
- HOMER (Masters of European Literature)** By S K Ghose Himalaya Publications Patna
- A MODERNIST'S PILGRIMAGE** By Sudhan Mozumdar Himalaya Publications Patna
- A MEMORANDUM ON THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF PAKISTAN** By Sir Homi Mody and Dr John Mathai
- THIS INDIA** By D F Karaka Thacker & Co, Bombay
- CHRISTIANITY ITS ECONOMY AND WAY OF LIFE** By J C Kumarappa Navjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad
- PEARLS OF ISLAM** Edited by Mohammad Amin, Bar at Law The Lion Press Lahore Re One but given free to those who apply to the author, care of Post Master Lahore
- NEW YORK WITH ITS PANTS** By D F Karaka, Thacker & Co Ltd, Bombay

DIARY OF THE MONTH

January 1. King Confers O. M. on Churchill.
—Lord Pethick Lawrence broadcasts to India.

January 2 British Parliamentary Delegation leaves for India.
—William Joyce executed.

January 3 H. E. The Commander-in-Chief remits life sentence passed on the three I. N. A. officers by the Court Martial.

January 4. Government's nominees to Central Assembly announced.

January 5. British Delegation arrives at Karachi.

January 6. Turkey's Premier repudiates Soviet Territorial Rights

January 7. Gandhiji meets Mr. Casey again.
January 8 United Nations Assembly meets in London.

January 9. Sir Ardeshir Dalal, member, Viceroy's Council resigns.

January 10. Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh is elected President of the Fifth Session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference.
—World Assembly meets at London : Prime Minister Attlee presides.

January 11 Teheran rejects Tripartite Commission proposal.

January 12. Bank Notes Ordinance promulgated—Notes of high denominations cease to be legal tender.

—Dr. Armattoe reiterates his story of the Russian Atom Bomb.

January 13. Prof. Einstein accuses Britain of trouble making enterprise.

January 14. Future of Indian States is discussed at the meeting of Chamber of Princes at Delhi.

January 15. Proposals for New Constitution in Travancore are released.

January 16. Congress Leaders meet M.P.'s. at New Delhi.

January 17. H. E. Lord Wavell addresses the Princes' Chamber at New Delhi.

—Independence for Transjordan is announced.

—Dr. Ba Maw, head of Burmese Government under Japanese, surrenders to Gl. McArthur's Headquarters at Tokyo.

January 18 Nawab of Bhopal announces important reforms.

January 19 Pandit Nehru welcomes Princes' declaration.

—Gen de Gaulle resigns.

January 20 Syria and Lebanon demand withdrawal of foreign forces.

January 21 Gandhiji arrives in Madras.
—Budget Session of Central Assembly opens.

January 22. British Delegation arrives in Madras.

—Government sustains first defeat in the Central Assembly on Indonesian issue.

—Mandamus petition *re.* demonetisation Ordinance dismissed in Bombay High Court.

January 23 M.P.'s. meet Gandhiji in Madras.

January 24. Mr. G. V. Mavlankar elected President of Central Assembly.

—U Saw, former Burma Premier, released.

January 25. Gandhiji addresses Hindi Prachar Silver Jubilee.

January 26 Central Government notifies extension of time limit for exchange of Bank notes.

January 27. Bengal Government puts up a memorial tablet at Vivekananda's birth place.

January 28. The Viceroy addresses the new Assembly.

—Sir A. Hyderi to succeed Sir Ardeshir Dalal.

—Mrs. Vijayalakshmi - Pandit arrives in Karachi.

January 29. Mrs. Asaf Ali appears in Calcutta.

January 30. Mr. Malcolm MacDonald appointed Governor-General of Malaya.

—Maharaja of Rewa deposed.

January 31. Maharaja of Cochin passes away.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



DIVIDE AND RULE POLICY

Writing in the *Tribune*, Mr Sunder Dhangra shows up how the Pakistan theory of the Muslim League is a cent percent British creation. He expresses amazement Mr Jinnah's appeal delivered to his followers in Bombay in which he refuted the charge against the League of "playing the game of British Imperialism and carrying out the wishes of Britain." He gives certain facts based on historical documents and would like the public to judge for themselves as to who is right Mr Jinnah or those making the charges.

In 1889 when Mr Charles Bradlaugh, M.P., introduced a bill in Parliament for conferring democratic institutions on India, an Englishman in India, Mr Beck, the first Principal of the M.A.O. College Aligarh, prepared a memorial on behalf of the Muslims vehemently opposing this bill. The memorial was based on the Greek fangled theory that since India was not one single nation democratic form of Government did not suit it.

In 1897, Beck formed the Mohammedan Anglo Oriental Defence Association and became its Secretary. The aims of the Association were (a) to support measures that would strengthen British rule in India (b) to prevent the spread of political agitation among the Muslims and (c) to protect the political rights of the Muslims. In one of his writings, Mr Beck stated 'It is imperative for the Muslims and the British to unite with a view to fight these agitators and prevent the introduction of democratic form of Government unsuited as it is to the needs and genius of the country.'

The All India Muslim League of which Mr Jinnah has been the President for the past seven years, says the writer, is the creation of Viceroy Minto. This is evident from the letter of Mr Archibald, who succeeded Mr Beck as the Principal of the Aligarh College written to Nawab Mohsil ul-Mulk dated 18th August, 1906.

Col Dunlop Smith, Private Secretary of his Excellency the Viceroy, informs me that His Excellency is agreeable to receive the deputation. He advises that a formal letter requesting permission to wait on His Excellency be sent to him. In this connection I would like to make a few suggestions. The formal letter should be sent with the signature of some representative Muzahhams. The deputation should consist of the representatives of all the provinces. The third point to be considered is the text of the address. I would here suggest that we

begin with a solemn expression of loyalty. The Government decision to take a step in the direction of self government should be appreciated. But our apprehension should be expressed that the principle of election, if introduced would prove detrimental to the interest of the Muslim minority. It should repeatedly be suggested that nomination or representation by religion be introduced to meet Muslim opinion. We should also say that in a country like India due weight must be given to the views of the Zamindars. But in all these views, I must be in the background. They must be from you. I can prepare for you the draft of the address or revise it.

The deputationists formed themselves into the All India Muslim League on 30th December, 1906.

The above move of Lord Minto, which resulted in weaning away the Muslim from the Congress fold by granting them separate representation under the Morley-Minto Reforms gave great relief to the preservers of the British Raj in India as is evident from a letter written by a high dignitary of Lord Minto's government to Lady Minto then in England.

A very big thing happened—a work of statesmanship that will effect India and Indian history for many a long year. It is nothing less than the pulling back of 62,000 000 (now 3 crores) people from joining the hands of the seditious opposition.

That arch imperialist, Mr Churchill, has all along been striving to keep the people of India divided among themselves. In 1910 he said.

If the Indians ever unite against us the game would be up. If they agree to have nothing at all to do with us, the whole thing would collapse.

It is, therefore clear, says the writer, that the two-nation theory which Mr Jinnah is championing with all his might is a 100 per cent British invention.

Likewise is the theory of Pakistan which originated with Viceroy Curzon, who partitioned the Punjab and created a separate Muslim province in the North West Frontier. Similarly, he set about partitioning Bengal and creating a separate Muslim province in the North East. Later on Bombay was partitioned and a separate Muslim province of Sind was created.

Indeed, in the view of this writer, the British have been consistently aiming at the division of India and encouraging all fissiparous tendencies.

THE DANCE—DRAMA OF KERALA

The *Prabuddha Bharata* has an interesting article on the Dance Drama of Kerala by Mr. L. K. Bala Ratnam. Among the many popular and interesting entertainments, evolved by Kerala's indigenous theatre and provided for the spectators is the *Thullal* which belongs to the realm of story telling:

It is more delightful and pleasing to the people than the rather slow-moving and ponderous *Koothu* of the Chakyar. The credit of its invention goes to Kunjan Nambiar, one of the greatest of Malayalam poets, who lived in the first half of the eighteenth century. Performed during day-time, unlike *Koothiyattam* and *Kathakali* which are performed at night, there is only one actor in a *Thullal* play. The actor wears a simple costume consisting of a frilled skirt, some arm and chest decorations. His face is painted and he wears a head-dress. He is assisted by a songster who plays on a musical instrument known as *maddalam* and a follower who keeps time by sounding the cymbols. The actor not only sings but also dances and makes appropriate gesticulations which are of a simple nature. *Thullals* are composed in such easy language that even the man in the street is able to understand them.

At present there are three distinct forms known by the names of *Seethankan*, *Parayan* and *Ottan*.

The recital is, in the first two, in a less rapid style than in the third one named *Ottan*. The make-up of the actor is also less elaborate. On the head, wrists, and biceps, the actor wears young coconut fronds, and ties a lot of broad tapes of red and white colour, forming loops at the bottom over a short skirt, round his waist. Jangling anklets are worn at the ankles. When he is dancing or doing his steps, these help to keep time in a pleasing manner. The *Seethankan* variety has greater quickness of movement than the *Parayan* one. The latter is well suited for the narration of pathetic stories.

Ottan Thullal is the most popular. The majority of *Thullals* are written in this form.

The make-up of the actor is an elaborate affair. The face is painted green and a head gear, resplendent with little mirrors and gilt-work, is worn. The eyelashes are smeared with collyrium which is also used to draw two lines from the corners of the eyes to the ears across the temples. A vertical mark *gopi* adorns the forehead. An ornamented breastplate hangs from the neck to the waist. Two little plaques adorn the shoulders. *Kankannams* (bangles) are worn on the wrists while tiny little bells in the legs tinkle rhythmically as the actor dances. A red skirt with a large quantity of looped tape is worn round the waist.

As noticed already, the actor is helped by a musician who leads the song and works on a *maddalam* (drum), and another who keeps time to the song with a cymbal.

In concluding the writer says:

If the cultural standing of a country is to be gauged by the glory of her arts, then Kerala surely stands on a unique pedestal. Here you meet also some of the oldest dance and dramatic arts of India—the *Kathakali*, *Thullal*, *Chakyar Koothu*, *Koothiyattam*, *Kaikkattikali*, etc. which speak greatly of the aesthetic culture and the emotional faculties of our ancients.

FREEDOM THE ONLY WAY OUT

The upheaval in the colonial countries in the East is at least partly due to the racial arrogance of the white rulers, says Brigadier-General Carlos P. Romulo of Philippines, writing in the *Colliers*. He says:

Wherever I went, I saw odious distinctions of race that violate human dignities. I saw gentle Burmese women stepping into the gutter to make way for white men. I saw Malayan gentlemen barred from British dining rooms and clubs in Singapore. I saw professors—graduates of Cambridge and Oxford—refused teaching positions even in primary schools in their own country because they didn't bow at the approach of a Dutch overseer.

Thus when the lid blew off this pot of seething racial resentment, it is easy to understand why white men were obliged to fight for their lives not only against oncoming Japanese but against the Malaysians they had treated so contemptuously.

After examining the Imperialists' excuses for denying freedom to the colonial peoples, he says:

First, how dare we say: "Freedom is right for the Philippines and the Dutch, but not for the Javanese. It is right for the Chinese, but not for the Indians." The essence of our world struggle is that all men shall be free.

Literacy is a significant yardstick of the development of a nation. Apply it to colonial nations in the Far East, and what do we find? The Dutch have been in the Indies for more than 300 years, taking out rubber, quinine, tin, oil, sugar, rice, tea, coffee, spices, metals and copra. Java's literacy in that time has climbed to seven percent. During one 30 year campaign at the turn of the century, Holland spent more than \$250,000,000 subduing Chinese states in northern Sumatra, a territory somewhat smaller than West Virginia. Yet in a similar period of years, the education budget for all of Sumatra has not totalled a tenth of that amount.

The same is the case in Indo-China, Malaya and Burma. The writer concludes:

Essentially the problem of the Pacific represents the race problem of the world. Ignore it, side-step it, neglect it, and the next war will be a race war.

A FOREIGN OFFICE FOR INDIA

A plea for the establishment of a separate Foreign Office for India, independent of outside control, is made by Mr Sarwar Hasan in the pages of the *Journal of the Indian Institute of International Affairs*. He argues that India being on the threshold of independence, or Dominion status which virtually implies independence, she must manage her foreign affairs independently of Britain, even as the Dominions are doing. In fact one of the attributes of Dominion status is independence in matters of foreign policy. And for the conduct of their foreign relations each of the Dominions has a Department of Foreign Affairs.

So far as India is concerned her foreign relations are still conducted by and under the direction and control of the British Foreign Office. This cannot continue for long.

The External Affairs Department of the Government of India advises His Majesty's Government on the conduct of India's foreign relations.

This arrangement is based upon the assumption that there is an identity between the foreign interests of the British Government and those of the Government of India. This identity does exist at present. The Government of India have no independent foreign policy of their own and follow in the footsteps of His Majesty's Government in foreign affairs. This does not mean that in every instance the Government of India takes the same line as is taken by His Majesty's Government. There are no doubt occasions when the Government of India disagrees with His Majesty's Government in matters of foreign policy and even sends out strong protests against a particular line of policy followed or about to be followed by London. But in so far as the Government of India does not possess an independent status and is dependent upon the British Government it is physically impossible for it to pursue a foreign policy different from that of His Majesty's Government. It is now recognised as of the essence of Dominion Status that a Dominion should be able to follow a policy entirely independent of and if necessary, even at variance with that followed by His Majesty's Government.

For the conduct of her foreign policy, India must have a full fledged External Affairs Department. What will be the functions of this Department? Obviously action in foreign affairs would be taken

and policy framed by her Foreign Minister in consultation with his cabinet colleagues, the cabinet being responsible to the Indian Legislature.

The most important function of the External Affairs Department would be to recommend courses of action in the international sphere and to execute commitments undertaken on behalf of this country in that sphere. For this it would be necessary that the Department must be in possession of full, exact and up to date knowledge, with regard to all and any matters, in which India is or can be interested. Further it must be able to make this knowledge available at a moment's notice whenever it is required. It must therefore acquire accurate and exhaustive information and digest it. The sources of information would be many, there would be dispatches from diplomatic representatives in foreign capitals, formal and informal communications from other governments, and reports from diverse sources. These latter sources would include newspapers, magazines, and speeches made by foreign politicians. This aspect of the work of the Department would be the foundation of its constructive and creative activities and must be performed most diligently.

The Department should be organised into divisions according to countries.

I would suggest that to begin with, it should have four regional divisions (a) the UK and the British Commonwealth, (b) Middle East and Africa, (c) Europe and the Americas, and (d) Eastern Asia and the Pacific. Each one of these Divisions should have a head who has specialised in the affairs of the countries that fall in his Division. In addition the Department would have a Legal Adviser's Division and an Economic Adviser's Division.

Much of the work of the Indian External Affairs Department would relate to preparing material for Indian delegates to international conferences. If a conference is meeting to discuss and decide on purely political matters, preparation for it would be made entirely in the External Affairs Department.

With the delegates would go all the essential documents, necessary for the conduct of negotiations at the conference and experts of the Department, who have specialised in the region with which the conference is concerned. They would take with them memoranda specially prepared in the Department for the conference.

With India taking more and more active part in international affairs and possessing a full fledged Department of the External Affairs of her own, with diplomatic representatives in various parts of the world it would be necessary for her to staff her own diplomatic service.

INDIA A RUSSIAN VIEW

New Times, a semi-monthly journal issued from Moscow has an interesting description of India as seen by a Russian named Mikheyer, during the eventful days of August 1942.

We arrived in Bombay on the eve of the opening of the Indian National Congress. This large city was seething with strikes and meetings. Thousands of Indians filled the squares, parks and the beach. The meetings went on day and night. Strong patrols of English troops marched down the streets to the accompaniment of a drum-and-file band, the music of which sounded strange to us. The rattle of tanquettes was heard. Mounted police in colourful uniforms with turbans on their heads patrolled the streets and square. Here and there materials for barricades and barbed wire entanglements were visible. Alarming news was coming in from the front in those days. The Japanese were nearing the frontiers of India through Burma.

Fabulous India, Rich and poverty-stricken. Ragged, emaciated and exhausted people. Rikshaws, cab drivers, street conjurers, dancers, singers and musicians. As in Karachi and Lahore so at Bombay the poorer classes, the workers and minor salaried people, live in the suburbs. Standard houses, all of one type. These are just squalid, congested hovels. From morning till night the streets teem with people. Here as in China, the street serves as the bazaar for many. People spend the greater part of the twenty-four hours in the street, and many of them sleep out on the pavement at night.

In striking contrast to the squalor and poverty and crowded habitations of the suburbs are the well kept lawns and palaces of Bombay.

In the centre and also in the bay the whites and wealthy Indians live. A multitude of Indians serve the white in this district. To have only a couple of servants is bad form. At least half a dozen if not more must be kept if one is to live up to one's reputation. In India as in China the cheapest commodity is human labour. Under the scorching tropical sun people work for a mere pittance, sometimes only for food. "The natives must not be paid more than they need for food, otherwise they will not work, they are too lazy," such are the ethics of the white employers of coloured labour.

We were told about the storm of indignation that was raised when American soldiers, who appeared in India in 1942, paid coolies, rickshaws, and the natives generally, two and three times as much for their services as was customarily paid them. Even this pay was miserable enough, but still people said that "the Americans were slandering their money about," that they were "spoiling the labour market," and so forth. A rich Dutchman who met on a steamer in Ceylon, in the South of India, said who owing

to the war had been obliged to flee from his rubber plantations in Java, was particularly loud in inveighing against this "corruption of the Indians." Sitting on deck sipping gin and watching the overseas driving, the coolies who were carrying baskets full of coal to the bunkers, this Dutchman tried to prove to us the advantages of cheap labour, claiming that it was "in the interest of the civilization of the coloured peoples themselves."

Whether it was the cheap labour or the general conditions in India I cannot say, but I shall remember for the rest of my life the sad spectacle presented by these lean, starving people, sickly, hollow-cheasted, with legs as thin as laths, their ribs almost breaking through their skin which was scarified by disease. I remember the exhausted-looking women who had lost nearly all their hair, and the puny children rummaging in garbage heaps for scraps of food.

INDIA AND WORLD AFFAIRS

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, writing in the magazine *Asia and the Americas* solemnly warns that "India as she is cannot play a secondary part in the world. She will either count for a great deal or not count at all."

Calling upon India to revitalise herself Pandit Nehru terms America, Russia and China as examples of what he calls "vital energy". It is easy to understand why America is energetic since she is "a new people uninhibited and without the burdens and complexities of old races. . . but the vitality of the Chinese people has astonished me. I cannot imagine a people endowed with such bedrock strength going under," he says.

Referring to Russia, Pandit Nehru says that the Russians are not a new people but have been "reincarnated anew in a manner for which there is no example in history. . . . The Russian example shows how a people can revitalise itself and become youthful again if it is prepared to pay the price for it and tap the springs of suppressed strength and energy among the masses."

The magazine *Asia and the Americas* said that the article was the first of a series drawn from Pandit Nehru's forthcoming book "Discovery of India" written in prison at Ahmednagar Fort.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

HYDERABAD POST WAR PROGRAMME

The Nawab of Chhatari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, recently laid the foundation stone of the building to house the Hyderabad branch of the Institution of Engineers (India)

Addressing the Engineers Assembly the Nawab of Chhatari said, "we have a large programme of post war works, such as the expansion of our railway system, construction of national and provincial highways and laying down of a net work of district, taluka and village roads. Schemes of town planning, water supply and drainage of district towns are to be implemented as soon as possible. Generation of electric power from our potential resources is among high priorities of our post war programmes

Successful execution of these programmes would largely depend, he said, on the abilities of engineers, their devotion to work and above all the noble ideals which were among the aims of their institution

BLANKET-WEAVING IN HYDERABAD

In the light of the experience gained by a previous scheme in respect of the blanket weaving industry, the Commerce and Industries Department of H F H the Nizam's Government, have sanctioned a similar scheme at an estimated cost of Rs 2,42,000 and Rs 18,800 recurring and non-recurring respectively. The cost of the scheme will be financed by the Rural Welfare Board

CAPT ANSARI

Few tales of bravery can surpass that of Capt M A Ansari, a nephew of the Nizam of Hyderabad, who endured torture, starvation and flogging in front of his men before he was finally betrayed by the Japanese. Despite his treatment this officer of the 5th Rajput Regiment defied his captors until the end, opposing them at every turn in the interests of his men

Mysore

SURGEONS' CONFERENCE

About a hundred delegates from all over the country attended the 7th Annual Conference of the Association of Surgeons of India held recently in Mysore. Lt Col Mirajkar, presiding over the session, stressed the need for an institution in India akin to the Colleges of Surgery in other countries to promote and encourage and to be the centre of the highest standard of surgical efficiency in the country

H H the Maharaja of Mysore in a message to the Conference observed "Consisting as it does of eminent surgeons from all parts of India the Conference of the Association will provide valuable opportunities for exchange of ideas on the science and art of surgery"

Hospital facilities should be made available geographically to all people, said the President. On Nursing, he said that it was a branch of medicine and urged that more and more educated girls belonging to all classes should be encouraged to take up this profession

THE DEWAN ON FOOD SITUATION

A survey of the possibilities of post-war development of industries in the State, a review of the food situation and the need to husband the State's resources in this direction, and an exhortation to educated young men to enter the field of commerce, were features of an address delivered by Pradhana Siromani N Madhava Rao Dewan of Mysore at a large gathering of merchants officials and public men at the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Mysore Chamber of Commerce

Referring to the progress made by the Mysore Chamber of Commerce Mr Madhava Rao said the Chamber was started in 1916 and had done valuable work in promoting trade and industry in the State. It had increased its membership from 39 in the beginning to 270 at present, and had a spacious habitation for itself

Travancore

FOOD SITUATION IN TRAVANCORE

Until the food position materially improves the present system of local procurement of rice and paddy and of imports from outside will continue. A Press communique issued in this connection, says that while the Government were considering the possibility of removing or relaxing controls in respect of the procurement and movement of rice or paddy within and outside the State, the food situation in India and elsewhere has deteriorated and this Government were, in fact, requested to send supplies of rice on a loan basis both to Ceylon and to the Madras Presidency. In view of the situation caused by the cyclone in the Northern Circars of the Madras Presidency and the drought in other parts of the Presidency and similar factors existing elsewhere, this Government have no alternative but to maintain the system of local procurement of rice and paddy and of imports from outside that prevailed during the war period until the position materially improves. They will, however, endeavour to utilise the ordinary trade agencies for storage and movement of stocks and the sale of foodstuffs.

TRAVANCORE RECRUITMENT

A Press note issued by the Government says that information has been received that in the matter of recruitment to Indian Defence Force, Travancore leads all Indian States.

SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR

We understand that His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore has extended the term of office of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar as Dewan of Travancore by a further period of five years.

Idar

RESPONSIBLE GOVT. FOR IDAR

The Maharaja of Idar announced at a durbar at Hinatnagar on January 6 abolition of certain taxes and the appointment of an Executive Council including a representative of the people. He stated that a committee to frame the constitution of Responsible Government would be announced later. It will be recalled that at the State People's Conference held recently relief from taxation, and the constitution of Responsible Government were demanded.

Orchha

ORCHHA STATE

Demand for a separate Bundelkhand Province by ceding to Bundelkhand all the districts and units which were dismembered after the mutiny was voiced by the Ruler of Orchha in Bundelkhand, while inaugurating the Third Bundelkhand Unification Conference. His Highness exhorted Bundelkhandis to remain united behind their demand for a separate Province.

The proposed Bundelkhand Province would cover an area of 52,937 square miles.

A resolution demanding the establishment of a Constituent Assembly and grant of responsible Government to Orchha State was moved at the conference.

Responding to the demands of the people of the State His Highness Sawai Mahendra Maharaj Sir Virsinghdeo, Ruler, announced grant of Responsible Government to his subjects shortly and has promised to enforce the scheme soon after consulting the Princes and the Paramount Power.

The Maharaja made this declaration while inaugurating the third session of Bundelkhand unification conference held at Tikamgarh under the presidentship of Rajendrasingh (M.L.A.) of Jubbulpore.

Baroda

CONCESSIONS TO INSURERS

The Baroda Government have agreed to insurers registered in British India keeping in Baroda assets equal to 55 per cent of their Baroda liabilities and taking credit for it for the purposes of the British Indian Insurance Act. That Government have also agreed to grant concessions to British Indian provident societies on the lines of those granted by the Mysore Government.

Cochin

COCHIN INDUSTRIAL BOARD

On the recommendation of the Industrial Development Committee the Cochin Government have appointed an Industrial Advisory Board, whose function will be to advise the Government on matters connected with the industrial development of the State.

The Chief Engineer will be the Chairman, and the Deputy Secretary to the Government (Post War Reconstruction) Secretary. The following are the members of the Committee: The Conservators of Forests, the Comptroller of Finance, the Director of Industries and Commerce, Dr K N Menon, Kerala Varna Thampuran, Rao Sahib C P Lonappan, and Mr K P Rau.

General

THE STATE PEOPLES CONFERENCE

'The war has shaken up Asia and Europe, broken down old frontiers and upset in many ways the old economic foundations, and out of this turmoil new patterns are arising,' said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, presiding over the 17th Annual Session of the All India States People's Conference at Udaipur on December 31.

Pandit Nehru continued

It is certain that the countries of Asia will not submit willingly to any empire or any domination and will revolt against it with a passion which even the atom bomb will not be able to suppress, and from that revolt will develop that terrible thing the third world war.

In India we stand on the verge of big developments which will probably be initiated more by the people than by the British Government. The attempts of this Government to crush the national movement have failed and the Indian people are

stronger and more determined to achieve their freedom than ever.

The people of the Indian States have moved with the rest of India. They have played a notable part in 1912 and after, and today they are as fit as they have never been before.

Speaking of the Indian States problem Pandit Nehru opined that

the way of approach to this problem is to make the people's welfare and progress the primary considerations. This involves political freedom, a democratic structure, fundamental liberties and rights guaranteed, and an independent judiciary. It involves equally economic freedom and the removal of all fetters feudal or otherwise, on the individual.

It is inevitable, said the Pandit that the vast majority of states which cannot possibly form economic units should be absorbed into neighbouring areas.

It seems to me important that the absorption should be with the provinces and not with other existing States, as has recently been done in Western India.

It is also not desirable that a number of small States should be grouped together to form a larger state unit. There will be no history or tradition or unity about this. Only an artificial joining together of backward areas with no reason to pull them up. Therefore, the union should be with provinces.

The major Indian States, under a reformed and democratic system of administration, can play an important and distinctive part as autonomous units in the Federation.

Such a Federation must be a willing union of its various parts with a minimum list of common and essential federal subjects with will apply to all units.

In the open Session of the Conference the next day important resolutions were moved and passed. The Conference confirmed and reiterated the resolutions passed by the standing Committee at Jaipur on October last in regard to proposals for changes in the constitution of India. The first resolution demanded

that the States' people should be represented on a fully democratic basis on any future constitution making body and for an assurance that the Conference would willingly co-operate with the Rulers and Governments of States on that basis with a view to the establishment of responsible Governments in them.

Another resolution passed by the Conference appreciated and welcomed the policy and programme for the future laid down in the Congress election manifesto.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Indonesia

INDIAN TROOPS IN INDONESIA

There is no truth whatsoever in the recent allegation that British and Indian troops are refusing to do their duty, said General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, referring to the presence of British-Indian troops in Indonesia, in his address to officers at the Garrison Theatre, at Shillong on January 6.

He said: "In the face of great provocation, their discipline has been, and is magnificent. This is not to say that the men themselves like the position in which they find themselves. No one for that matter likes their being there in the present circumstances. I earnestly hope that the whole situation will soon be settled."

General Auchinleck made an appeal for close co-operation between Indian and British officers in peace as in war. "During the war, the Indian Army's reputation for efficiency, as well as for valour has equalled, if not surpassed, that any other Army in the world."

East Africa

KENYA CONGRESS RESOLUTION

The Congress, representative of Muslims as well as of Hindus, and including 100 delegates from Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, has passed resolutions expressing a unanimous vote of no confidence in the present Kenya Government, demanding increased Indian representation in the Colony's Councils, and an urgent need for a comprehensive inquiry by a Royal Commission on political, and other factors, concerning all races.

Another resolution, deploring the hurried implementation of the Kenya Re-organisation Proposals, states: "It is painful to observe that even Britain's Labour Government is unable to withstand racial aggrandisement on the part of European communities in the Colonial Empire."

S. Africa

UNITED TRANSVAAL CONGRESS

In response to a desire of the Transvaal Indian community for a United Transvaal Congress, candidates representing all shades of opinion were elected by the Transvaal Indian Congress at a mass meeting at Johannesburg.

Mr. Y. M. Dadoo was elected President; two Secretaries, two Treasurers, nine Vice-Presidents and 64 members of the Working Committee, were all elected following agreement on the lists of candidates.

The Transvaal Congress which represents the interests of 27,000 Indians, issued an assurance to all members that decisions on important issues affecting the Indian community would be taken purely on merits and that there would be no departure from the procedure previously followed by the Congress.

Burma

RETURN TO BURMA OF EVACUEES

Half a million Indian refugees from Burma are eligible for repatriation to Burma. The repatriation will begin sometime in March, 1946. Four ports—Calcutta, Chittagong, Vizagapatam and Madras—have been selected for the purpose of repatriation. About a hundred thousand refugees will sail for Burma from each of these ports.

These facts were disclosed by Rao Bahadur Manicklal Kapadia, member of the Civil Supplies Board Government of Burma, in an address to Burma refugees at Surat.

U. S. A.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION TO U.S.A.

President Truman, at a press conference in Washington on January 8, announced himself as firmly in favour of immigration from India to the United States what it had already done for China.

The President thus confirmed indications given during the House of Representatives debate on the Indian Immigration Bill, that the Administration is firmly behind it.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

ECONOMISTS' WARNING TO INDIA GOVERNMENT

India, in spite of her own economic handicaps had during the war been 'forced to finance H. M. G.'s purchases' by the 'worst possible methods of currency inflation'. After the war the same methods are being continued to drain India's resources by 'forced lending for rehabilitation of Great Britain', even when her own people suffering from hunger and disease are threatened with yet another famine, signs of which are already in the air.

This is the purport of a manifesto issued by 24 leading economists of India, warning against the dangers of deficit-induced fiat money, and urging the Government of India to limit their financial liabilities to what they can raise by loans and taxation.

The economists maintain that this deliberate inflation of currency in India 'to finance the deficits of His Majesty's Government' are responsible for the accruing of 'sterling balances' during and after the war, and, if continued further, will forebode economic disaster.

Referring to the 'Demonetisation Ordinances' in this connection, they assert: "The ordinances do not directly reduce the volume of currency but merely change the form in which it is held," and to say that they can check black marketeers and profiteers in this state of unchecked currency inflation is "to ignore an elementary economic truth"

THE FOOD DELEGATION

The Food Member, Sir J. P. Srivastava, announced in the Assembly during the debate on the food situation on February 5, that he proposed to take a delegation to London and then to Washington to press India's case for more food-grains to meet India's shortage which he estimated at three million tons. He said that it was for every country to go and plead its cause before the Combined Food Board. "We sent the Food Secretary to do that, and although I would not say that his mission has failed, yet I think it is necessary for us to do more—to shout more, if I may say so—and press our case more strongly, if we are to get what we need"

"With this object in view, it is my proposal that I myself should go to London and then to Washington I want to take with me, as members of the delegation, representatives of the Governments of Madras, Mysore and Bombay and I would also like to take with me two or three non-officials. I would be very grateful if different parties in this House will give me two or three representatives. I propose, after the debate is over, to have a talk with Party Leaders on this subject.

"Why I want non-officials is that I realise they can put forward the popular point of view better."

Utterances of the Day

VICEROY'S ADDRESS TO CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

In one of the briefest addresses to the Central Assembly, H. E. Lord Wavell, the Viceroy, said in inaugurating the present session on January 28 :

"I have not come here to make any novel or striking political announcement but simply to meet the newly chosen representatives of India—those of you who are here—and to speak to you a few words of welcome and encouragement.

"The intentions of His Majesty's Government have, I think, been made sufficiently clear. They have a determination to establish a new Executive Council formed from the political leaders; and to bring about a Constitution-making Body or Convention as soon as possible. I cannot enter into any details at the moment of the methods by which these bodies will be formed and how the difficulties, of which we are all fully conscious, will be surrounded. Nor do I think it wise to try to set a date or dates for the steps to India's freedom. I can only assure you that they have a priority label in Delhi and Whitehall. I ask you for your co-operation and goodwill in our great task.

"In this session, you have already debated on adjournment motions, some of the pressing questions of the day. Proposals for legislation will be put before you by Government spokesmen. These include some important measures which are the result of the most careful deliberation and which I think will, if passed by the Legislature, advance the credit and welfare of India, I do not speak with any intention of influencing your votes. It may be that you will think it right, some of you, to vote against the Government on almost every issue and to inflict the maximum number of defeats. If you believe that this is your political duty, I have nothing to say. I may think that it will be a short-sighted policy to prevent or

delay legislation that is likely to be of real benefit in India. But that is for you to decide.

"I do claim, however, that you should not, in the course of the debates in this House during this session, say anything which may reduce the chances of my forming a political Executive Council, affect adversely the prospect of a settlement on the main constitutional issues, or increase the bitterness already abroad in the country. Enough, and more than enough, animosity, has been caused during the elections of the Central Assembly; and the Provincial elections are likely to have the same effect. It would be a great help to me, and I think, to the leaders of your parties, if moderation would be studied in all speeches here during this session.

"I hope and believe that the period of destructive work in the Assembly is near an end. If I am successful in forming a new Executive Council with the support of the principal parties, you will have a very great deal of most important constructive work to put in at your next session. Legislation by Ordinance is not at all to my taste. And I very much hope that you will thus relieve me of the necessity to use my powers, even though it may involve long sittings to get through all the proposals put before you.

"I think the Parliamentary Delegation have received a very generous welcome to India and that they have met them with their earnestness and sincerity, and of the general desire in Great Britain to achieve a lasting and peaceful settlement. I am sure that they have made it quite clear that their purpose is not to delay the programme of His Majesty's Government, but to inform themselves, and thus their parties, of present conditions and opinions in India.

"At the moment all our minds are inevitably concentrated on the great political issues shortly to be decided. Some of you may alternate between ardent hopes and chilling fears. I for my part, am firmly optimistic, believing in an old and homely proverb, Where there is a will, there is a way."

ALL-INDIA ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

That the economists yield to no one in the demand for freedom which must be won for ourselves and not sought as a gift from outside, was the declaration made by Sir Manoharlal, Finance Minister, Punjab, while inaugurating the 28th session of the All India Economic Conference at Lahore on December 30 last.

While proclaiming his faith in the country's freedom, Sir Manohar Lal observed "Before that ideal all thought must bend, to that end all our efforts must be directed" Sir Manohar continued

India has her own immediate tasks, but in such a world distracted and half ruined she cannot withhold her hand of fellowship and in the disintegrated East, her responsibility and her duty is even more manifest. The teaching of economics and the leadership of economists at all times of high importance, is of special value to-day. On poverty no worthwhile policy can be raised, economic strength is the very basis of national strength.

Prof D G Karve, in the course of his presidential address observed

I make bold to say that Economics ought to assume a more willing and more constructive role in the shaping of social policy and that it will not be able to do this satisfactorily unless it broadens its visions so as to take in all the significant aspects even including apparently non economic aspects if they are really significant

"I am convinced", he said, 'that there will never be a living social power, *et* an authority which is organically connected with the social environment of which the economist himself is a part'

Judging from past experience of revolutionary changes in human societies it is only to be expected that the principles of collectivism and planning will ultimately be found to have several degrees and forms of manifestation according to local environment

Dr E D Lucas thanked the President for the encyclopaedic presentation of his address

Dr A I Qureshi, Secretary of the AI Economic Association, in thanking the Reception Committee expressed gratitude to Dr E D Lucas for his life work extending over forty years, done for the service of the silent and suffering man at the plough for whom so much was said but little was done

GANDHIJI ON C R's LEADERSHIP

We welcome the reappearance of the *Haryan*, Gandhiji's well known weekly. In a signed article in the very first issue which appears after three and a half years' suspension, Gandhiji recounts his experiences of the South Indian tour

After refuting the suggestion that those who wanted to approach him during his recent tour of South India were prevented from doing so, Mahatma Gandhi says that Mr Rajagopalachari was one of his oldest friends and was known to be the best exponent in word and deed of all he (Mahatma Gandhi) stood for.

Gandhiji continues

That in 1942, he differed from me I know. All honour for the boldness with which he publicly avowed the difference. He is a great social reformer, never afraid to act according to his belief. His political wisdom and integrity are beyond question. I was therefore pained to find a clique against him. It is a clique that evidently counts in the official Congress in Madras. But the masses are devoted to Rajaji. I am neither vain nor foolish enough to feel that I could have had the huge public demonstrations, all along the route of the pilgrimage, if he had no influence with the masses in Tamil Nad. Congressmen in the south will act as they think best. But I would be less than loyal to the organisation, if I did not warn them against losing the valuable services which no one can shoulder as Rajaji can at the present moment

LEAGUE MINISTRY FOR SIND

In a move characterised as unconstitutional and unjustifiable by the *Sind* Assembly Coalition Party, Sir Francis Mudie, Governor of Sind, has installed a League Ministry in the province

Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, who has again become Premier, is yet to complete his Cabinet—only four of the six places have been filled with Leaguers—and he has approached the Assembly Congress Party Chief, Prof Ghansyam, to nominate two members to the Cabinet to represent the minorities

The Coalition Party, however, has decided to have no negotiations with Sir Ghulam Hussain as Premier, but to sit in Opposition and overthrow the Ministry at the earliest opportunity.

Educational

ALL-INDIA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Presiding over the 21st Session of the All India Educational Conference at Madras on December 28, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer stressed the need for state control of Primary Education. The highlights of Sir C. P.'s address may be briefly summarised:

Stop wastage and stagnation at various stages of education. Divorce university education from education for different callings or professions. Hold separate tests for entry into Government service. Let the State control universal primary education and take education if possible to the doors of the lowly and the high-placed alike. Plan out a scheme of education which can make India really great.

His Excellency the Governor of Madras declared the Conference open.

More than two thousand delegates from all over India (including a number of ladies) attended the Conference. Besides distinguished educationists, Mr. C. H. Shaikh, Assistant Educational Adviser to the Government of India, who had been specially deputed to observe the proceedings of the Conference, was also present.

Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Chairman of the Reception Committee, requesting His Excellency to declare the Conference open observed:

Ere long, nascent democracies will, we hope, be functioning in this country. History is not unlikely to repeat itself and in the first flush of newly vested power, great plans for the spiritual, moral and material regeneration of the people may be envisaged. Now is the time for us educationists to state in no ambiguous terms that the first duty of the State is to educate, to give the citizens the knowledge and the power to think aright and appreciate all such reforms.

The four day session concluded with the ratification of the resolutions submitted by the sections relating to childhood and Home Education, Oriental Studies, Internationalism, Peace and Geopolitics and Health and Physical Education.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer was in the chair to give the Conference its final touches and also to extend an invitation to the Federation to hold its next Conference at Tiruvandrum

INTER-UNIVERSITY BOARD'S DECISIONS

The 21st annual meeting of the Inter-University Board was held at Colombo on December 21 and 22 with Dr. Amarnath Jha, the Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University in the chair.

The Board was of the opinion that in respect of Honours and Masters' examinations, the Universities should adopt a uniform system of examination by two independent examiners. It was suggested that the Federal Public Service Commission should hold its examinations in August, October, November and from January to the middle of February.

While reiterating its previous resolution in favour of the adoption of modern Indian languages as media of instruction for the intermediate and degree courses, it recommended

that the Central and Provincial Governments and States should subsidise the production of books of university standard in the different Indian languages; that the universities should, to begin with, select certain areas and institutions where the medium of instruction should be an Indian language and where special grants should be made for the employment of qualified teachers and the upkeep of such colleges; and that the alumni of these institutions should receive preference in the matter of employment, particularly in the Education Department and such other departments in which proficiency in an Indian language is likely to prove an added qualification.

The Board also expressed itself in favour of an Honours course being of 3 years after the Intermediate Examination.

It emphasised the need for physical training and also expressed the opinion that adequate funds be provided for the Army, Navy and Air Training Corps by the State.

Dr. J. C. Chatterjee, Vice-Chancellor of the Agra University, was elected chairman for the next year and it was resolved that the Board should meet next at Jaipur in Rajputana.

MARWARI MONEY LENDERS

"I should like to give a strong expression to the necessity for legislative insistence on those Marwari money lenders who lend money in other linguistic areas to keep their accounts in Telugu or Kanarese or the language which is known to the people who borrow from them. That a Court should be more or less compelled to receive accounts in 'Marwari script' a language known only to those 'Marwari money lenders and to no one else in Bellary, is to place a burden which is almost intolerable on courts. Even the numbers of the pages on those accounts could not be read by either of the learned counsel who appeared in this matter and were under great disability as I have been in coming to a decision as regards those debts on piece meal translations of scattered accounts entries. I would recommend a legislation on those lines to the serious notice of the Government in the interests not only of persons who borrow from those money lenders but in the interests of the latter as well.

This observation was made by Mr E E Mack, ICS District Judge in a petition filed by two Marwari firms Rajaji Kesari mul and Harakchand Kesari mul who sought adjudication of Doddabasappa as an insolvent.

PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS

Mr Justice Kanla dismissed with costs at the Bombay High Court the petition filed by Mr Joseph Michael D Souza holder of a 1000 rupee note requesting the issue of a writ in the nature of a mandamus directing the Reserve Bank of India to discharge unconditionally its obligations of a promise to pay on demand contained in the note.

Mr Justice Kanla held that the word 'Exchange' contained in Section 39 of the

Reserve Bank of India Act empowering the exchange of notes for current notes or coin, covered the obligations of the Bank to give such current notes or coin also as against notes which ceased to be legal tender.

Clause 6 of the Demonetisation Ordinance clearly covered the Judge observed, the obligations of the Bank to pay for notes in exchange and also to pay on the promise contained in the currency note.

Mr Joseph Michael D Souza filed an appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Kanla before Chief Justice Lokur. This appeal was also dismissed with costs.

The petitioner in his appeal submitted that the Judge erred in holding that the word exchange used in the Demonetisation Ordinance and the Reserve Bank of India Act included a promise under a bank note to receive the payment of the amount in discharge of the bank's liability to perform the promise. The petitioner also stated that the Judge was wrong in stating that the transaction in question did not involve the case of satisfying an obligation to pay a debt.

DEBT CONCILIATION ACT

A Bill to further amend the Madras Debt Conciliation Act 1936 has been published in the *Fort St George Gazette* for eliciting public opinion.

The Bill provides that all application for the settlement of debts pending on the date on which a Debt Conciliation Board ceased to exist and in respect of which a directive has not been issued by the Government under Section 4 A should be deemed to have been dismissed on the date on which the new provision comes into force. Section 4 A empowers the Government to direct that after a specified date a Board should not receive applications and that applications received by it after a date fixed by them in this behalf and not finally disposed of by it on or before the specified date should not be proceeded w

INSURANCE BUSINESS IN INDIA

According to the "Indian Insurance Year Book, 1945," a provident society "submitted its valuation return with all the paraphernalia of the Schedules with respect to the only policy on its books on the valuation date!" "It was a situation bordering on the comic," it observes.

The Book states that there is an appreciable number of societies with less than 100 policies on their books and quite a large number with less than 1,000 policies, while only a very few have 1,000 policies and more. "All those societies which have been functioning for a period of 10 years or more and yet have less than a 1,000 policies on their books," it says, "should realise in their own interests and those of the policyholders whom it is their desire to serve, that they have not been able to secure the confidence of the public and that therefore they should amalgamate with large societies." There are, in its opinion, too many small, tiny and uneconomic units; amalgamation between societies, is therefore "the only cure for the present state of things."

BRITAIN'S NEW SOCIAL CHARTER

Britain's "great social insurance charter" for every person in the country was laid before Parliament on January 25 by the Government in the form of a National Insurance Bill.

The scheme, which is based on Sir William Beveridge's proposals to the Coalition Government, provides benefits for everyone, rich or poor, young or old; in sickness and unemployment, at every stage from the cradle to the grave—all for a simple weekly contribution which everyone will pay, whose income is above £ 75 a year.

It will give sickness benefits, maternity grants and allowances, widows' allowances

for orphans, or pensions (in future to be called retirement pensions) and what has never figured in any previous social legislation in this country—death grants.

All these benefits are offered in return for a weekly contribution of 4s. 7d. for a man above 18 in the employment of another; 3s. 10d. for an employer; 5s. 9d. for a man who is self-employed; and 4s. 8d. for a "man of leisure."

The scheme will be self-supporting from the contributions of insured persons and the Exchequer and will cost £452,000,000 in 1949, rising to £ 496,000,000 in 1954-1955.

The Government is rapidly achieving its ambition, after being only six months in office, of providing complete social security for every citizen within a single administrative frame-work epitomised in the slogan "One scheme; one contribution; one stamp; one record and one card."

INSURANCE FUND FOR COTTAGE INDUSTRY

The cottage industries in India have not received the attention that they deserve from the Economists. The *Saturday Mail* points out that out of a total of 78 lakhs of workers engaged in the different industries in India more than 63 lakhs are engaged in small scale and cottage industries. About 80 per cent of the total workers are therefore engaged in small industries yet these industries are not getting the encouragement that they can command. Mr. S. S. Shukla has given an illuminating picture of the difficulties that these cottage industries are suffering from and has also suggested remedies. The most urgent needs of these industries are adequate purchase of raw-materials and the marketing of finished goods. All these difficulties can more or less be redressed if the blocked funds of the Insurance Companies be available.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONFERENCE

On December 27, at the Banqueting Hall, Madras, H. E. the Governor opened the South India Industrial and Commercial Conference convened by the Southern India Chamber of Commerce. There was a large and representative gathering of officials, non-officials, commercial and industrial magnates from all over South India.

Referring to industrial development His Excellency said :

There are down here in Madras, and South India generally, great opportunities for building up industry and I hope that people will in the years to come try to build those industries up and, although agriculture in this country plays a predominant factor, try to get people to go into business and into manufacture far more than they have done in the past.

His Excellency declared :

Government are not against industry in any form or shape at all. We want to help in every way we can.

Sir M. Visveswaraya presided over the Conference and Dr. Sir R. M. Alagappa Chettiar, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed those present. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chettiar unveiled portraits of former and present Presidents of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce.

The Conference concluded its deliberations the next day, after adopting a number of resolutions in regard to problems connected with trade and commerce in the Province. Foodgrains control, important means providing full employment and raising the standard of living, the development of trade and commerce, and postal and telegraphic services, the improvement of Madras and other minor ports, the jurisdiction of civil courts over taxation appeals and the rights

of Indians overseas, formed the subjects of resolutions. Mr. C. Rajan, moved a resolution opposing the road rail scheme of the Government, as, in his opinion, it was not fair on the part of the present Government to commit a future Government to a policy which might not be acceptable to them.

Mr. Manian Natesan, seconding the resolution, suggested the formation of a joint board of representatives from the industry and from the transport agencies which would work out the transport rates. He also pleaded for encouragement for the ship-building industry of Vizagapatam.

Sir Visveswaraya in concluding the proceedings supported the suggestion for a separate portfolio which would be entrusted to a full-time Minister for Industries, Commerce, Industrial Research and Statistics. He suggested that in future there should be an Economic Council consisting of the representatives of the Government and the people. If they could not have a Council, the Government should get into touch with leaders who are trusted both by the Government and the people. It was possible to get such men who would form a sort of a liaison committee.

DEAL FORCED ON INDIA

India's position has certainly not improved as a result of the Anglo-American financial agreement, says Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, editor of the *Eastern Economist*.

He says: Whether terms of the agreement are favourable or not, the public have got a right to complain against the thoroughly indifferent and unworthy attitude of the Government of India which had not even cared (a) to see for its being consulted at every stage and (b) to send a proper representative to be at Washington to make representations during the pendency of negotiations. India has the biggest stake in the matter of sterling balances and yet her Government has made no attempt to get her a hearing at Washington.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Important extracts from Mrs. Hansa Mehta's Presidential address to the All India Women's Conference at Hyderabad, touching the rights of women and their claims to equality with men appear elsewhere in this issue.

A vigorous plea for the adoption of the principle of the Sargent Scheme was made by Miss Lilamani Naidu when she moved a resolution endorsing the main principles of the national system of education as envisaged in the Sargent Scheme and demanding the immediate introduction of free, basic education on a country-wide scale.

The Conference adopted a resolution on health insurance agreeing with the principles of the Government scheme. The resolution demanded inclusion of provisions for full pay during the three months' maternity leave and extension of the scheme to workers of seasonal factories.

In consonance with the suggestions made by the president in her address, a charter for women with rights as citizens of a free India is to be prepared by the Standing Committee of the All-India Women's Conference.

A resolution to this effect passed at the third day's session of the Conference charged the Standing Committee with the task of drafting a memorandum embodying their concrete demand in this direction to be placed before the National Government as soon as it is formed.

The Conference by another resolution demanded the institution of universal adult franchise and deplored the existing restrictions on the right to vote.

Lively debates followed the motion by Shrimati Kamaladevi supporting the Arab demand for the rescinding of the Balfour Declaration on Palestine. Lady Rama Rao and Madame El Said, an Egyptian delegate, spoke on the resolution which was adopted unanimously.

There was a spirited debate again on the resolution on civil liberties. The resolution, which was moved by Mrs. Renuka Ray and passed unanimously demanded the immediate withdrawal of the Defence of India Regulations, restoration of complete freedom of speech, press, association and movement, unconditional release of political prisoners and the detenus and the removal of bans on those released from prisons.

The Conference resolved that Indian women should be encouraged to qualify as midwives and nurses. Other resolutions dealt with rehabilitation and unemployment questions and urged the establishment of vocational centres for training unskilled destitutes and other women and industrial centres for employment.

Mrs. Kusum Sayani was unanimously elected General Secretary of the Conference for the next year.

SHRINES OF KASTURBA

His Highness the Aga Khan is rebuilding with white marble the mud shrines of the late Kasturba Gandhi and Mahadev Desai in the compound of the Aga Khan's Palace in Poona, where Mahatma Gandhi was detained.

The shrines will be surrounded by specially built walls. The Aga Khan has obtained Mahatma Gandhi's consent for this work.

Mahatma Gandhi has been requested to suggest inscriptions to be carved on the shrines. The letters "OM" and "Hey Ram" stand at present inscribed on the shrines of Mahadev Desai and Kasturba Gandhi.

The work of rebuilding has already started and it is expected that it will be completed very shortly.

MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

Presiding over the second annual meeting of the *Museums Association of India* at the Museum Theatre, Madras, Rai Bahadur K. N. Dikshit, retired Director-General of Archaeology, said that when the aim of museums in India, which were started either as repositories of antiquities or local products or even research institutions, was shifted to education, both elementary and secondary, the type of museum that would emerge would be different from that of any existing at present.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, inaugurating the meeting, said that we regarded "the Prakarams of the various temples in India, the palaces of great notabilities and the collections in the various religious foundations as essentially museums, if by museums are meant a collection of things whereby the human mind transmutes itself into things of beauty. People visit those places and derive inspiration and stimulus from those artistic treasures."

PROF. V. G. KALE

We regret to record the death at Poona on January 27, of Prof. V. G. Kale, well-known Indian economist and a former Member of the Council of State. He was 71 years of age.

Mr. Kale was a member of the Indian Tariff Board in 1923 and was connected with several committees of the Bombay Government. He was author of an early publication of our firm—"Indian Industrial and Economic Problems" which at the time, had a wide appeal.

GANDHIJI ON LEARNING ENGLISH

The tendency to learn English rather than one's own language was deprecated by Mr. Gandhi at a prayer meeting at Sodepur. "If we could stop this tendency we would be free from one of our slaveries", he said, adding that he could not express how this tendency by some people to talk and write in English damaged them and the country.

CONGRESS PARTY IN THE ASSEMBLY

The Congress Party in the Central Assembly has elected S. J. Sarat Chandra Bose as the Leader of the party.

The elections of the Leader and the Deputy Leader were unanimous. Mr. Asaf Ali proposed the name of S. J. Sarat Chandra Bose for the Leadership and S. J. Sarat Chandra Bose proposed the name of Mr. Asaf Ali for the Deputy Leadership of the party respectively. The following other office-bearers were also elected: Seth Govind Das, Treasurer; Prof. N. G. Ranga, Mr. N. V. Gadgil and Mr. Mohanlal Saxena, Secretaries.

Since then Mr. G. V. Mavlankar, Ex-President of the Bombay Assembly, has been elected Speaker of the Central Assembly, and Sir M. Yamin Khan, Deputy President.

THE LATE MR. HAYAVADANA RAO

Rao Bahadur C. Hayavadana Rao whose death at Bangalore was reported the other day was aged 70 and had been ailing for some time.

Mr. Hayavadana Rao was a well-known journalist and was Editor of the *Mysore Economic Journal*. He was for some years editor of the *Madras Times* and later of the *Leader*, Allahabad, and had contributed special articles to various newspapers. He was Director and Secretary of the Bangalore Printing and Publishing Company for a long time. He was editing the *Mysore Gazetteer* and was connected with various commercial concerns in Mysore State.

Mr. Rao was a prolific writer to this *Review*, in its early days, and his interests were versatile, ranging from current politics to the tales and legends of ancient Hindustan.

SIR A. R. DALAL'S RESIGNATION

For personal reasons Sir Ardeshir Dalal has tendered his resignation from the Viceroy's Executive Council which has been accepted by His Majesty the King. He will however continue to serve as Planning and Development Member until the return from Europe of Sir A. Ramaswami Aiyar who will take over that portfolio.

THE ALL INDIA MEDICAL CONFERENCE

The medical swaraj for India with the entire elimination of the I. M. S. from the civil and administrative departments of the country was urged by Dr. Roctiram Amesur of Karachi in his Presidential address at the 22nd session of the All India Medical Conference at Amritsar on December 22.

By it he also meant the recruitment of the nationals of the country and the recruitment of the members of the independent medical profession in future.

The abolition of the I M S and I M D. and their replacement by the I. A. M. C. which should be a purely military service, was urged in a resolution passed by the Conference.

The conference also demanded the abolition of the reservation of civil posts for members of the military medical service, the reversion of existing members of military services to the I.A.M.C. and the stoppage of importing I.M.S. and I.M.D.

By another resolution the Government of India was asked to circulate the Bhore Committee's report on health survey and development for public opinion and to give effect to its recommendations after consulting the duly appointed representatives of the Indian Medical Association. The National Planning Committee also asked to circulate its report and consult the Indian Medical Association before giving effect to its recommendations.

The Conference requested the Central and Provincial Governments to bring into operation the Drugs Act of 1940 by immediately notifying the rules made thereunder, etc.

The conference also passed resolutions urging the provincial Governments to rigorously enforce the law regarding adulteration of foodstuffs; requesting the establishment of a regular rural medical service on sufficiently attractive terms: demanding recruitment to the teaching staff of the medical colleges on basis of qualifications and teaching experience; urging the appointment of wholetime teachers etc., etc.

INDIAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION

Sir J. C. Ghosh, Director of the Indian Institute of Science inaugurated the third annual meeting of the Indian Pharmaceutical Association at Bangalore on January 3.

Sir Shanta Swarup Bhatnagar, who was to have presided being absent, his presidential address was read out to the meeting by Dr. H H Nanji, of Bombay. Sir S. S. Bhatnagar pointed out the need for an All India Pharmacy Act governing the registration and licensing of pharmaceutical establishments. In the course of his address, he said:

"There will soon be in this country, five National Laboratories which will be able to cope with scientific research work on a large scale with respect to a great many industries.

The need for organising Co-operative Industrial Research Associations, particularly relating to the fine chemical industry, is under active consideration.

Industrialists complain that the measures to render expenditure on research by industry free from incometax was withdrawn by the Government, with the result that industry cannot finance research association laboratories from its own funds."

He hoped that the new Finance Member will initiate steps to overcome this handicap in his next budget.

POONA NATURE CURE CLINIC

"This Institute is now meant for the poor and the common people. The rich can get its service in their company. Though bodily I am in Bengal, today my mind is in Poona", — in these words Gandhiji sent his blessings to Dr. Dinshaw Mehta whose nature cure clinic was formally transferred on January 1, to the Public Trust of which Gandhiji is the Chief Trustee.

In celebration of this occasion prayers were held at the clinic after which Dr. Mehta explained the aims and objects of the new Trust.

The management of the clinic has now been entrusted to Mr. Mannalal Shah, who has been deputed from Sewagram.

BANK NOTE ORDINANCES

Following two surprise ordinances a third one empowering the Central Government to direct the Reserve Bank of India to inspect any banking company has been promulgated. The Ordinance also empowers the Government to take certain corrective action, where necessary, if after perusing the Reserve Bank's report of inspection they consider that the affairs of a banking company are conducted to the detriment of the interests of its depositors. The Government may prohibit the banking company from receiving fresh deposits or refuse its inclusion as a scheduled bank, or, if it has already been so included, direct its exclusion from the schedule.

The Central Government further issued a notification dated 26th January under Sub-section 10 of Section 6 of the High Denomination Bank-Note (Demonetisation) Ordinance under which certain authorities are authorised to extend in any particular case for sufficient reason the time limit imposed on the acceptance and exchange of high denomination notes.

Managers and officers in charge of branches of the Reserve Bank of India are allowed to exercise the power mentioned above upto and inclusive of February 9, 1946, while the Deputy Governor and Governor of the Reserve Bank of India may exercise the power to extend the time limit upto and inclusive of April 26, 1946, after which date, further extension in each individual case will be considered by the Central Government. Government treasuries and scheduled banks will cease after the close of business on January 26, 1946, to accept any applications for exchange of high denomination notes.

BANK OF ENGLAND'S ORDER

Just as high denomination notes of the value of Rs. 500 and above have ceased to be legal tender in India, so Bank of England five-pound sterling notes bearing a date prior to September, 2, 1944 will be called in on February, 28, next but the notes will remain a legal tender upto and including the date.

NEW SCHEMES TO PROVIDE WORK

In a recent broadcast Sir Arthur Griffin, Chief Commissioner of Railways, denied the allegation that the Railway Board had decided to retrench or discharge 250,000 temporary railwaymen. The Board, he added, had never held the view that discharges on anything approaching such a scale would even ultimately prove necessary. He said:

This figure of 250,000 represents the total of employees on the railways who are temporary and includes therefore, those holding permanent posts in a temporary capacity in view of the undertaking by the Government that 70 per cent. of permanent vacancies occurring up to the end of this month will be reserved for ex-Servicemen. The balance of 30 per cent. of employees, serving up to now in a temporary capacity, are being confirmed in accordance with a procedure which is equitable to all.

MR. GIRI ON RAILWAYMEN'S DEMAND

"I am sure the members of the Parliamentary Delegation have already understood the real spirit of the people in this country. If they have come here with the idea of drafting the Indo-British Treaty, they should do so on the basis of the "Quit India" principle. Let me tell them sincerely that if the Britishers quit India politically, Indo-British relations will be good for India as well as England. The longer a third party remains in India the more will be our differences. If we have belief in any one thing it is in this, that the British should quit India forthwith."

Thus observed Mr. V. V. Giri, former Labour Minister in the Congress Cabinet of Madras, speaking at a meeting of the M. and S. M. Railway Employees' Union at Madras last month.

Referring to the threat of retrenchment in the Railways and his recent discussions at Delhi, Mr. Giri said that the Chief Commissioner of Railways was very reasonable and hoped that the latter would keep up that spirit of the move for retrenchment.

A ROYAL COMPOSER

The Expert Committee of the Eighteenth Music Conference organised by the Music Academy, Madras, celebrated the 'Swathi Thirunal Day' at Mylapore recently, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar presided.

After prayer, Sangeetha Kalanidhi T. V. Subba Rao delivered a lecture on the life and greatness of Swathi Thirunal. He said that the Royal Composer's works were soul-stirring, and inspiring and above all were capable of providing solace and delight to all lovers of music. His compositions breathed the same religious fervour that characterised the songs of Tyagaraja.

Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar said that Maharaja Swathi Thirunal was not only an eminent composer but an administrator of great repute. His endeavours towards improving the Travancore Observatory were well-known. A brilliant statesman the Maharaja effected important reforms in the Travancore State.

NEW RECORDING SYSTEM

Two important developments in gramophone—a new recording system and a new revolutionary design—have just been announced.

The combination of gramophone and records made under the new system is stated to produce living music of previously unattainable quality by means of which, for the first time, symphonies can be heard in the home with the same clarity, definition and realism as in a concert hall.

The new recording system is remarkable in that it has full frequency range. The usual type of recording system registers frequencies up to 6,000/7,000 cycles. The new system reaches out far beyond, registering faithfully the whole range of frequencies audible to the normal adult, bringing a realism to gramophone record hitherto unknown.

The new development, it is said, is almost comparable in importance to the change-over from the old acoustic to electric recording some 20 years or so ago.

THE VICEROY ON SPORT

Laying the corner-stone of the new stadium of the Maharashtra Cricket Club at Poona on January 10, His Excellency Lord Wavell said: "The first object of all sport must surely be to encourage the many to take part in the recreation, whatever their standard of ability, rather than to exhibit the skill of a few chosen players."

Wishing the Club success, the Viceroy added:

"Kipling roused the indignation of the British public many years ago by writing of 'the flannelled fools at the wicket and the muddled oafs at the goals.' The playing of games may not always require much brain power, though you will find that in any game the outstanding players are those who use their heads as well as their hands and feet.

"The sportsman is one who plays the game for the enjoyment of it, and not to show off his own proficiency; who plays for his side and not for himself; who never loses either his temper or his courage; who is modest in victory and generous in defeat.

"So long as sport promotes those ideals, so long as it keeps the body exercised and the mind refreshed, it cannot but be beneficial to the individual and to the nation.

"I will end by two short quotations on 'the spirit in which games should be played. The first was written on golf, which has become, with my advancing years, my principal game.

Golf is a contest calling for courage, skill, strategy, and self-control. It is a test of temper, a trial of honour, a revealer of character. It is a cure for care, an antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friends, and opportunities for courtesy, kindness and generosity to an opponent. It promotes not only physical health but moral force. That was written, as some of you might possibly have guessed, by a Scotsman, a golfer and a citizen of St. Andrews.

"The other is the pledge laid on members of a famous cricket club. It is short and simple:

Keep your promise, keep your wicket up. Honour, self control, steadfastness, in fact, the three qualities which are as valuable for a good citizen as for a good cricketer.

PEOPLE'S CAR

Britain's first "people's car," to be known as "Kendall," and which is to be sold in Britain for £150 including tax and insurance, is being built with Indian capital.

It is being backed by an Indian industrialist from Bombay, Sheikh Ali Ahmed. His partner in the scheme is Mr. W. D. Kendall, Independent M. P. for Grantham.

Speaking to *Globe*, Sheikh Ali Ahmed said: "The Kendall car is being backed by about 90 per cent Indian capital. I am aiming to produce Kendall cars in both Britain and India. I am building factories just outside Bombay and expect they will be in production in India within six months. I am producing two types, both saloons capable of carrying four large-sized people. Although the cars represent new departures in motor design, they are well tried and should be excellent for the Indian market."

NEW CAR MODELS AFTER THE WAR

The famous Nuffield organisation is ready to start large scale manufacture of new model cars.

Sir Miles Thomas, Vice-Chairman of the organisation, has stated that cars will be turned out at the rate of more than 3,000 per month.

New plastics and new improved metals such as highest-grade all alloy steels will be entirely new. Other designs will incorporate the latest advances in performance, longevity, smoothness, and silence of running.

BRITISH MOTOR CARS FOR INDIA

Over one million cars are already on order from British manufacturers of which 250,000 are scheduled for the overseas market, but it is believed scarcity of shipping may result in a proportion of the latter being switched on to the home market. However, it is learned authoritatively that the Board of Trade intend using large numbers of landing craft to ship cars to India.

RACE HORSES BY AIR

The regular transport of racehorses by aircraft has brought a step nearer when the first of a large fleet of freight aircraft was tested recently. They are to be built by the Bristol Aeroplane Company, and have been designed to include facilities for the accommodation of racehorses in a new type of horse box, which is being made by a well-known firm of coach-builders.

The B.A.C. has had a number of enquiries from British and Irish racehorse breeders, who wish to fly blood-stock abroad.

Each aircraft will accommodate two horses, and entrance will be effected by a slight ramp running into the nose of the fuselage, which will have an opening of eight feet square.

The Company has in mind the possibility of aircraft being chartered by leading racehorse trainers for the transport of horses between stables and courses in England.

INDIAN NATIONAL AIRWAYS

An increase of Rs. 6.96 lakhs in revenue to Rs. 30.87 lakhs is the outstanding feature of the accounts of Indian National Airways, Ltd for the year ended 30th June, 1945. Net profits at Rs. 2.09 lakhs are about Rs. 33,000 higher than in the previous year. Depreciation gets Rs. 87,265 9-2 (Rs. 60,507 12-4). After maintaining a dividend of 6 per cent. on Preferred Ordinary shares, the directors have reduced the dividends on Ordinary shares from 5 per cent. to 3 per cent.

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT FACTORY

Enquiries made at the Hindustan Aircraft Headquarters show that about 5,000 hands out of a total complement of 11,000 have been retrenched in the past two months. In view of the Royal Air Force not taking up the factory, as originally planned, further reductions are possible.

HEAVY INDUSTRIES

The suggestion that two new heavy industries should be started in every Province immediately, if the Government were really serious in the declaration that they wished "to promote the rapid industrialisation of the country," is made by Sir M. Visvesvaraya in a memorandum on the development of heavy industries in Provinces.

The more important of the heavy industries are; shipping and shipbuilding, steel, coal, automobile, aeroplane, internal combustion engines, machinery manufacture, manufacture of mill machinery, manufacture of electrical machinery, aluminium, and rayon.

For promoting heavy industries, provincial leaders and business men are being approached, says Sir M. Visvesvaraya. "Many such citizens seem willing, with reasonable co-operation from the Government, to assume responsibility for starting at least two new heavy industries in their respective Provinces by collective effort, as part of a general programme of industrialisation for the whole country."

LONG TERM TARIFF POLICY

The need for industrialisation in order to secure balanced economy and stability of employment in India, was emphasised by Mr. G. L. Mehta, addressing the Commerce Graduates' Association, at the Indian Merchants' Chamber Hall, Bombay.

Mr. Mehta said that if the more industrialised countries of the world could insist on the principle of equal access to raw materials, the economically undeveloped countries had also a right of access to the capital goods of the world. Factors like priority, import control, exchange, including command over dollars and the prevailing high prices, Mr. Mehta added, determine the problem of obtaining capital goods.

While welcoming the appointment of a short term Tariff Board, Mr. Mehta regretted that the Government had decided nothing about the long-term tariff policy.

AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

How to solve the problem of Indian rural poverty? This was the main issue discussed by Sir M. Nanavati in his presidential address at the VI Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics which met at Benares on December 26. The first essential, he said, was that the Government of India should take a broader view of their functions as in other countries.

Sir M. Nanavati stressed the importance of deliberate planning in respect of production and distribution of essential items of food and pleaded for a radical change in the basis and structure of rural economy as an indispensable condition for increasing productivity.

Preventing of sub-divisional fragmentation of holdings and their consideration as economic units, elimination of absentee landlords and intermediary interests and a progressive system of peasant proprietorship were some of the measures advocated by him. Village panchayats, he said, should be used as the basic units of corporate life for social and administrative purposes.

About 70 delegates including representatives of important universities participated in the Conference which was inaugurated by Mr. Noel Hall, Economic Adviser to the Government of Bengal.

Whatever the improvement in agriculture might mean, the term certainly connotes increase in the output per acre and in the per capita income of the cultivator,—

observed Mr. Sampurnanand, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming delegates to the conference. He added:

A number of factors will contribute to this end. Better seeds, more and better manure, the conservation of the available organic manure through local fermentation and other methods of supplying cheap fuel are very important. Laying out of grazing grounds, scientific rotation of crops, provision of marketing facilities and cheap credit through co-operative societies, educational expansion and liquidation of adult illiteracy, dissemination of scientific knowledge through radio and other methods which combine recreations with information—all these are important and will require the best attention of the Government and its expert advisers.

MINIMUM WAGES BILL

A Bill to fix minimum wages for workers in industry, business, trade, commerce and agriculture, has been drafted by the Government of India's Labour Department, and circulated among various Trade Union organisations and employers' associations:

The Bill is to be introduced as a Departmental measure during the present session of the Central Assembly.

The Bill extends to the whole of British-India, including British Baluchistan and the Santhal Parganas. The measure will come into force on such date as the Central Government may decide.

The Bill provides that a Provincial Government shall, within two years from the date on which the Act comes into force, fix a minimum wage payable to any worker employed in the various industries and in agriculture.

Different minimum wages may be fixed for adults, adolescents, women, and children. The Provincial Governments are also empowered to fix different minimum wages for different localities in a Province, and for different industries, business, trade, commerce, and agriculture, in the same or different localities of the same Province.

A minimum wage may be fixed either per hour, or for a day, or for any other greater unit of time, not exceeding a month. A day will mean 8 hours' work, and if a worker does work in excess of 8 hours on any day, he shall be entitled to additional payment.

INDIAN SEAMEN

Australian trade unions paid a tribute to Indian seamen on strike who made three months' heroic stand against Dutch imperialists. The men recently left Sydney by steamer *Meelton* for India.

The Unions are informing the Indian Seamen's Union and other leading Indian authorities of the part the men played in the Indonesian dispute and are requesting them to ensure no victimisation.

INDIAN PHILOSOPHICAL CONGRESS

The 20th Session of the Indian Philosophical Congress was inaugurated at Trivandrum on December 19 by H. H. The Maharaja of Travancore, the Chancellor of the University.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar extended hearty welcome on behalf of the University and the Government of Travancore. He regretted that during the last six or seven centuries we had been immersed in the cobwebs of disputation over words and abstract ideas. It was the duty of learned bodies like the present Congress to take up the thread of our philosophy and to follow it up until we could again attain that spirit of research and originality, which was both the criterion and distinction of Indian philosophy.

Prof. M. M. Shariff of the Muslim University, Aligarh, in his Presidential address, observed that in about 600 years before the Christian era, philosophical thought took its birth in four different centres of civilisation in the world—China, Persia, India and Greece. But by the 10th century only two systems survived, the Indian and the Muslim.

He went on to describe how Muslims became the torch-bearers of civilisation and learning.

Although the Muslims did not originate philosophical thought as they originated scientific enquiry some of their achievements in this connection were most remarkable and paved the way for European renaissance. This indeed was their chief claim to fame. The Muslims learnt Mathematics from Hindus, Philosophy from the Greeks, Astronomy and Mathematics from both, and after making remarkable developments, passed them on to Europe.

THE THEOSOPHICAL CONVENTION

"It doesn't matter how many off-shoots there are in the Society so long as each group gives the fundamental message of the Ancient Wisdom," said Mr. C. Jinarajadasa, President-designate at the conclusion of the 70th International Convention of the Theosophical Society, at Adyar on December 31.

Shrimati Rukmini Devi urged Theosophists to meditate on greatness and beauty and to live as comrades of humanity and friends of the poor and suffering.

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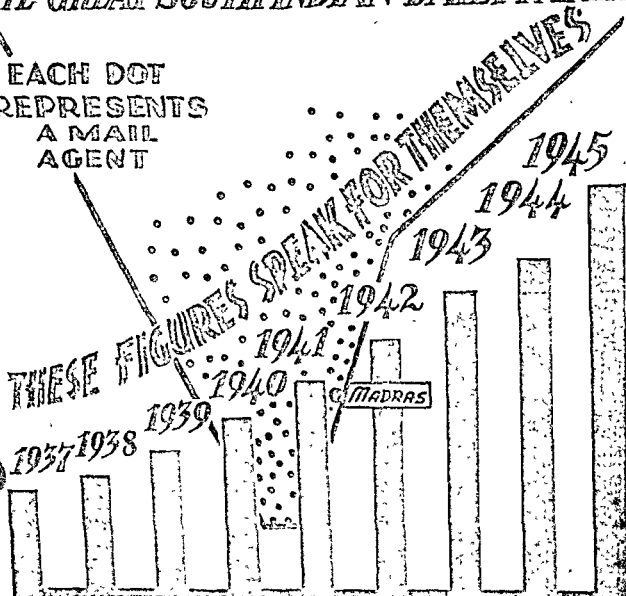
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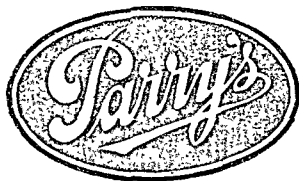
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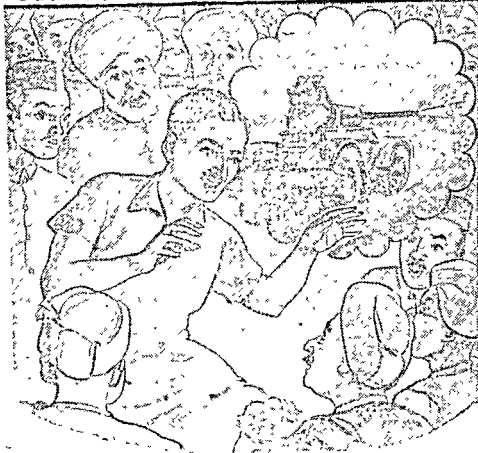
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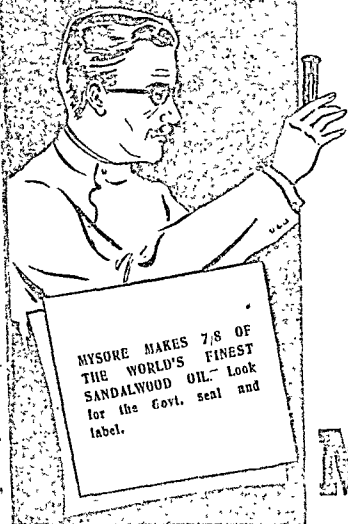
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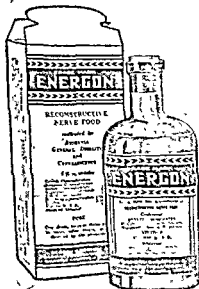
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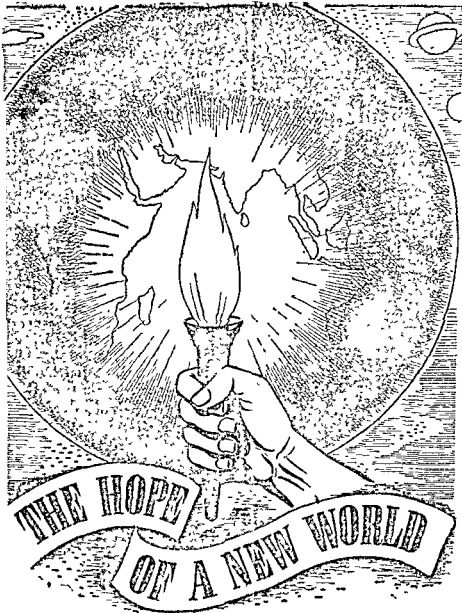
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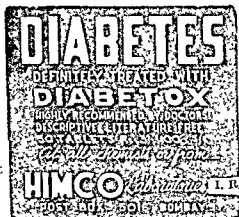
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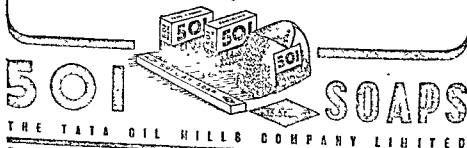
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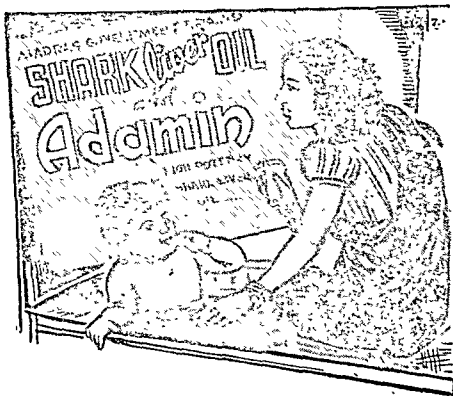
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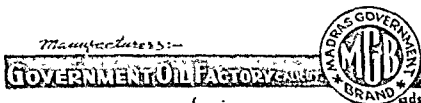
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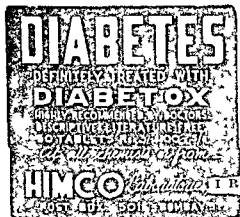
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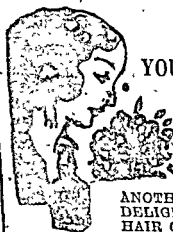
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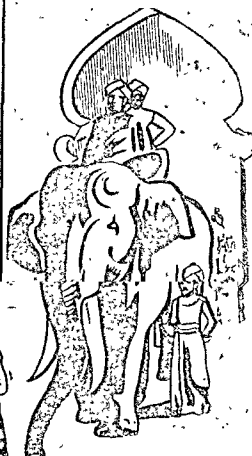
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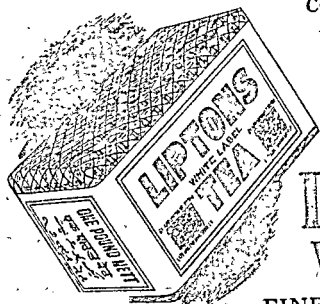
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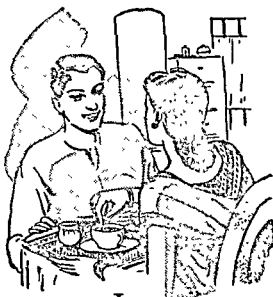


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BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

I BY THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M. C. CHAGLA

AS a child I was rather lonely and sensitive. I rarely found any pleasure in outdoor games or walks or excursions. Being highly imaginative, I liked to live in a world of romance and high adventure. I got over my loneliness by inhabiting my world with characters from fiction and my sensitiveness, which made me eschew ordinary company, by making myself at home with imaginary or legendary figures from books. In those early days I read a large number of novels—not all necessarily possessing literary merit. I well remember a friend of mine had a set of the novels of Dumas. I read them all. And I saw the panorama and the majestic flow of French history not through the dull narration of a pedantic historian, but in the colourful pages of a romantic artist.

I read a great deal of trash, but fortunately my taste developed as I read on. Like all young men, I absorbed the pages of Dickens, Scott and Thackeray. Two authors who influenced me a great deal were Anatole France and Thomas Hardy. The former is the master of ironic pity. The latter teaches us that we are mere play-things in the hands of a blind and pitiless Fate. I hope I have

learnt from these two masters tolerance and sympathy for human weakness and frailty. I have always been reluctant to pass moral judgments on the failings of my fellow-men. I always try to realise how little they are due to deliberate volition and how much to the relentless force of circumstances.

Even now I have kept up my interest in and contact with literature. It constitutes for me an ivory tower into which I can retire from the dullness and drabness of every day's existence. In our natures there is a duality—a conflict which requires to be resolved. The prose and poetry in us are, always struggling—clamouring to be harmonised. However much the world may be with us, we have a craving for the ideal and a longing to reach out our hands to the stars. It is undoubtedly good for our souls from time to time to betake ourselves to this ivory tower and dream of a world more after our heart's desire.

Poetry, too, had, and always has, a special appeal for me. People do not always realise what beauty and magic mere words have, and how when strung together like pearls in designs inspired by the poet's imagination, they can move the

soul to ecstasy. Frankly, modern free verse does not appeal to me much; I am old-fashioned enough to want to hear music in the poet's fancy expressed in verse. I shall never forget that day in Oxford, when sitting in my room in my College, a friend read to me a poem of Swinburne. It went to my head like heady wine. I did not know that mere words could produce such glorious music. The sadness and pathos of Hardy's poetry; the economy of words with which Housman gives expression to his bitter pessimism; the greatest lyrical poem—Cynara—in which Dowson has poured out his heart in quest of a hopeless love; all these have moved me so deeply that they must have influenced me for better or for worse. In this ruthless age reading of poetry is considered rather effeminate. It is certainly not a pastime of strong silent men. But I am neither one nor the other. And if my heart still aches at the misery and misfortunes of my fellow-men, it may be that poetry has made me soft and weak.

I must also mention the drama. From the earliest days the theatre had an irresistible fascination for me. Till I went to England, I did not see many plays, but I read a very large number. The dramatist gives to his composition a unity and coherence which it is possible for very few artists to give when working through a different medium. Most of us require a lifetime to solve the problems which society and our surroundings set us. But the dramatist sets the problem and solves it within two hours on the stage and in the course of three or four acts. We see the conflict of emotions and

loyalties, the development of character against the decrees of an inscrutable fate, and the price exacted by nature for human folly. Even in this celluloid age, when the screen has practically vanquished the stage, I find that I am still thrilled by the beauty of the human voice and the nobility of the human gesture.

Of course I read Shakespeare. I doubted with Hamlet, realised with Lady Macbeth that all the perfumes of Araby cannot remove the taint of sin, suffered the pangs of jealousy with Othello, and laughed with Falstaff. I also read a great deal of Shaw. His lucidity, his rationalism, his hatred for humbug, his flair for being in advance of the times, his contempt for all conventions, influenced me a great deal.

Turning now to the more serious books which influenced me, I think biographies and autobiographies played the most important part. I liked to read in these lives how from nothing men by sheer dint of character and by the infinite capacity for taking pains, which some prefer to call genius, rose to commanding heights. The one book which affected me most powerfully was Morley's *Life of Gladstone*. I discovered from it the perennial charm of Oxford, the fascination of party politics, how the voice of the people can rise superior to all the artifices of politicians, and how democracy, with all its slowness and wooden-headedness, is the best form of government.

It is difficult to say of any one book that it has influenced the whole of one's life. But I can, I think without exaggeration, say this of Morley's *Life of Gladstone*. I knew very little of Oxford,

and I had no clear idea of going to England for prosecuting my studies. When I read of young Gladstone's life at Christ Church, the companionship and friendship he enjoyed, the intellectual atmosphere in which he worked where the keenest intellects subjected every problem to the most searching analysis, the Union and other debating societies where he argued and debated, the physical beauty of the place where the dreaming spires and the winding river make every young man dream dreams of how he would re-fashion the world, I made up my mind that I wanted nothing so much as to be able to go to that University. The opportunity came when the war was over and the armistice was signed in November 1918. I was still very young. I was only eighteen, and I was in Intermediate Arts. But I was determined to take my plunge. Unbeknown to my parents I went and saw the Registrar of our University. He had grown grey in its service and thousands of students had passed through his hands. I told him I wanted to go to Oxford, and whether he could secure me an admission. He asked me whether there was any particular College I wanted to go to. Without the slightest hesitation I said Christ Church. He looked at me and asked me why I wanted to go there and whether I knew any one there. I told him that that was the only College at Oxford I knew anything about, and that Gladstone had been there. He smiled and told me that I had some curious ideas— which was very true. Some months later, I received intimation from him to go and see him. I went and I was informed that

I had been admitted to Lincoln College. He noticed the look of disappointment on my face. He was a kind old man, and he patted me on my back, and consoled me by saying that it was not a bad little College. I went to that College and on the very first day when I entered the Hall to have my dinner I saw a very large portrait of a distinguished alumnus of the College. I went up to it to see what name it bore. And I found it was Lord Morley. By a strange twist of fate, if I had not gone to Gladstone's College I had gone to that of his Biographer's whose book had been solely responsible for my coming to Oxford at all. When later I read Morley's recollections, I learnt the curious reason which had led young Morley to go to that College. His father sent him there because John Wesley belonged to that College, and Morley was also John.

Reading in the book about the development of Liberalism in the nineteenth century and the towering part played by Gladstone in its fortunes gave me my first insight into politics. I also read of his wonderful oratory which swayed multitudes, and the wizardry with which he could carry the House of Commons with him. I realised that in order to succeed in politics, a capacity to put into precise words one's ideas, and to give expression to them in a manner that would appeal to one's audience was essential. Although I had decided to take to Law as my profession and I was already eating my dinners at the Inner Temple, my heart was in politics and I decided to do my utmost to prepare myself against the day when I would

return to India and would be able to play whatever part was assigned to me in the public life of my country. I spoke regularly at the Union and the Majlis and other societies; I took History and not Law as my subjects for the B.A., because I felt that politics without a background of History would be mere sound and fury without much substance. When I returned to India, I thought I had got my chance. I was fortunate enough to get into Jinnah's chambers who was the acknowledged leader of the Bar at the time. But it was more his politics than his brilliant advocacy that attracted me to him. I had come in contact with him before I went to England. I had read the small book of his collected speeches and also the brilliant foreward by Sarojini Naidu in which she hailed him as the apostle of Hindu-Muslim Unity. This little book laid the foundation of my political faith to which I have remained faithful and to which I have given my unswerving allegiance through good and bad times. While, Jinnah espoused the Nationalist cause I worked with him in my humble way on the platform of the Muslim League. Then black clouds came over the horizon and Jinnah and I parted company. And with a wrench of the heart which I still feel, I said good-bye to politics and took up my present position. And so I learnt my big lesson, which was further reinforced by the book to which I shall presently refer, that it is the contingent or the fortuitous that plays the decisive part in one's life.

The book I want to refer to is Haldane's Autobiography. Haldane achieved a great

many things in life with considerable distinction. He was an eminent lawyer and judge; he was a distinguished philosopher; and he was one of England's greatest war ministers. An early disappointment in love, instead of turning him bitter as it would have done most people, made him plunge into intense and unremitting work. At the Bar he learned the great secret which every lawyer should know—to find the underlying principles in dealing with facts, however apparently confused and complicated. He was hounded out of public life during the last war, because he was considered pro-German owing to his deep interest in German philosophy. But when the whole of London was celebrating the victory, and he sat a lonely man in his flat forgotten by everyone, Field Marshal Douglas Haig called on him and left a message with him that he was the greatest Secretary of State for War England had ever had.

In the last chapter of his book, one of the finest and most moving I have ever read, and one which I often re-read, he sums up the philosophy of his life. He says that we should never disturb ourselves about the quantity of work turned out by us or our prominence with the public. "It is not any finality attained that can ever be ours; what can be ours can be no more than the best quality of which we are capable, put into the effort towards the attainment of what we have set before ourselves." He makes a passionate appeal for quality in thought and action. "Of knowledge we can at best master only a fragment. But if the fragment has been reached by endeavour

that is sufficiently passionate, the struggle towards it yields a sense of quality, of quality in the very effort made, which stands for us as being what we care for beyond everything else as being for us truth, whatever else may not be certainly truth. And so life is not lived in vain though in the ends attained it may seem to have failed. He was once asked by a distinguished statesman whether he would like to live his life again and his answer was an emphatic no. He felt that we greatly underrate the part that accident and good luck play in shaping our career and giving us such success as we have achieved. "The contingent plays a large part even in the best ordered lives and we do well to ask of philosophy to teach us how to make ourselves detached from the circumstances it brings, whether happy or otherwise." And he ends up by saying that we can all acquire this philosophy if we keep ourselves humble in mind and avoid self seeking and vanity.

I must not overlook the influence that the study of history had on me. The

development of ideas, the fight between poverty and privilege, the slow but sure triumph of freedom over tyranny, I liked to read of these rather than the rise and fall of dynasties and the expansion or contraction of temporal power. I thought a study of this would help me to understand the problems of my country where, at least so I thought, a nation was in the making, struggling towards freedom. Little did I realise that all this would have to be thrown on the scrap heap, and all rational thought would be submerged by a torrential wave of communal frenzy.

We all have our disappointments and our heart aches. And I am no exception to the general run of men. But I have found ever sustaining comfort and solace in books. When life has seemed not worth while when one's work has seemed futile and insignificant, the nobility of purpose and the painstaking achievements of others recorded in books has brought a gleam of hope and encouragement, and endowed one's own struggle with a purpose and an objective.

II BY MR C RAJAGOPALACHARI

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THE books that influenced me are not what I read upon direction or advice but what by accident I came upon.

I found Thoreau's *Duty of Disobedience* on the table of a friend to whose house I went to spend some time chatting. I picked it up from a heap of miscellaneous papers—my friend was a fellow lawyer with good practice—and found therein, what enlarged later into something like a life programme.

I went to prison once with a very restricted number of books of which one was a copy of *Robinson Crusoe*. Luckily I had not been forced to read this famous book when I was a boy and was therefore enabled when I was forty to find in it not a stale child's story book but religious inspiration of permanent value.

Another small but great book that I chanced to read merely by accident was *The Trial and Death of Socrates*. It has shaped me as nothing else has done.

A fourth book that affected me as deeply as *Socrates* was J S Mill's *Liberty*. The unqualified attachment to truth as such is what appealed to me in both these philosophers.

Lastly I must mention Marcus Aurelius's *Meditations* than which I have found no greater solace in hours of grief or when beset by evil.

May I add by way of caution that it is not English books that made me whatever I am. It is the stories my mother and two aunts of mine amused me with that built me up.

Principles Underlying Budgets of Indian States

BY RAO BAHADUR SARDAR M. V. KIBE, M. A., Indore, C. I.

ECONOMISTS, like politicians in British India, are so much engrossed with its problems for the consideration of which there is material that a part of India which contains no less than one-fourth the territory and more than one-fifth of its population is for them non-existent. Lately, however, politicians have been forced to take interest in the aspirations of the subjects of Indian States, but in a casual way. It cannot be otherwise unless and until their economics are understood and explained by economists.

The principles on which the budgets of Indian States are based are fundamentally different from those of even bureaucratic Governments. In principle, the dominion being in essence the personal concern of the ruler, the first charge on the revenue of a State was that which concerned the ruler. After satisfying these needs, the second charge is the expenditure on the means of collecting revenue. The third, what is called law and order, the supports of which are the Army, the Police and the law courts, and lastly the charges for the welfare of the subjects, including the developments of roads and other means of communications. A perusal of the budgets of the Indian States will show that the general outline given above is followed in them.

During the past 20 years, the successive representatives of the Crown advised the rulers of the Indian States to limit their privy purses; in other words, reverse the order of the items in their budgets; and the Princes Chamber has been also discussing the same. These have had some effect and the general rate of ten per cent of the revenue for the purpose of their privy purse seems to be accepted by the princes, although there is room for the limitation of the expenses under the heads "Palace" and "Guests." An example has been laid down by a ruler who has not allowed his privy purse to keep pace with the increased revenue.

This is a commendable step which deserves to be followed by others.

The principal income of the Indian States is subject to two sorts of States; one section is one which has the land revenue as its main income and the other which has inland customs as its principal item of income. In some States, railways are bringing in a large amount of revenue and other States favoured by physical and political circumstances have large incomes from industries. The other features of the provincial budgets are common to all, but it is the expenditure side which is dismal in States. In States the income of which is largely derived, from lands including forests and mines, practically little is done to increase their productivity. All States, under the pressure of modern conditions, do spend money on education, sanitation and medical facilities to its subjects, but these are samples and tokens and are really taken as the other paraphernalia of the emblems of the States. There are few exceptions, but even there there is room for expansion and reduction of other expenditure to foot these departments.

In almost all the States following British India, rural development departments have been brought into existence. A writer belonging to the premier State of India referring to this department makes observations which are apposite and true. He says (the Indian Journal of Economics, July 1945 p. 89) "Rural reconstruction has been very much in vogue in this country during the last 15 years or so, and they tried to reconstruct new rural India by providing mosquito nets, quinine tablets, a window or a ventilator in an old half dilapidated house and reviving old panchayats here and there. These efforts have failed universally. The sooner we realise that this is all a wasteful effort the better for us" In some States propaganda vans with cinema films have been introduced, but they seem to be more

pleasure trips to operators than to be of any lasting benefit to the villagers or even townspeople

Mahatma Gandhi's 15 principles for rural development or reconstruction, the Wardha scheme of education and the efforts of the Kasturba Fund bid fair if fully supported by all parties—the Government, the people, the politicians and the workers—to bear more tangible fruit in raising the standard of living of the Indian people. As the writer already quoted says, "Indian poverty is nothing new nor is the desire of raising our standard of living." He continues "But the efforts made in the past to solve this colossal problem seem like a drop in the ocean and were made without fully realising the implications of the situation and the scale of effort that was needed to remove it"

However under the impetus given by the Gandhian plan of economics, some new avenues have been opened by Governments in British Provinces, as an example may be stated, the school for women opened at Fyzabad in Oudh. Some village improvements made with the co-operation of the inhabitants and above all the system of education to be given through some art which has been introduced in some places, of United Provinces are a step in the right direction. In some villages radio sets have been provided which is a better method than that of travelling vans.

But the Indian States are in a better position to undertake rural reconstruction on the right lines than the British provinces owing to their being governed by a ruler. But for achieving this the re-orientation of the budgets of the Indian States is required. At present the framers of the budgets of the Indian States understand that the re-alignment means increased expenditure on the educational, medical, sanitary and such other activities of the state. In panchayats and co-operative activities alone they expect participation by the people.

In a state which may be taken as an example of an advanced type with a normal income of over Rs 2 crores and having all types of source of income such as land revenue, inland customs and industries, out of the income from land besides spending about one fifth on cultivation it spends nothing on improvements of their soil, or schemes like co-operative or collective farming, or marketing or multi-purposes societies. While from an income on an average of three years of Rs 9 lakhs from forests it spends the paltry sum of Rs 17 thousands per annum on its improvement. Rural development and panchayats absorb less than Rs 2 lakhs per year. A person responsible for finances in a state by re-alignment of the budget only understood increased expenditure on education and medical departments. His vision which is typical would not go to what is meant and required by raising the standard of living of the subjects of the state.

It can be only done not simply, by education and advancement of local self government panchayats, taluqa district boards, and municipalities but by promoting irrigation, regulating the price level of commodities by controlling import and export, improvement in the production, processing and marketing of crops and commodities, opening avenues of work fostered by big and small industries specially by raising the earning capacity of the people by training and affording facilities and by the state control of incomes. A state budget has to be re-oriented on these lines.

The Finance Minister of Hyderabad, to quote from the article already referred to, has ably touched upon this aspect. He has collected in the year to which the quotation refers a balance of Rs 3 crores as post-war development fund. He says "This reserve should be earmarked for meeting expenditure on nation building activities like education, public health, medical relief and rural and industrial development. While the increase in

revenue" he wisely observes "due to war conditions may not last when peace dawns and the artificial conditions created by war melt away, the need for expenditure on nation building activities and the pressure of development of social services is bound to increase."

In this respect the Finance Minister does not show equal wisdom as in the following quotation: "The war has not left the old and orthodox concepts of finance unaffected and the old citadel of technical and rigid finance, with its meticulous controls and the strict examination of the expenditure and Nation Building schemes from a somewhat narrow point of view of their immediate ability to meet interest and depreciation charges is yielding just to the more advanced and rational basis of judging development schemes from the point of view of their direct and incidental benefits to the people in the country." He further emphasises: "Schemes which may not be immediately remunerative in the sense of producing enough revenue to meet interest and depreciation charges however confer benefits on the citizens—far out-weighting in their economic and social aspects the deficiencies in meeting the necessary financial charges. The sanctity attached to the balanced budgets has broken down under the stress of war, which has demonstrated that expenditure on beneficial activities, bring in an indirect return in raising the general efficiency of the individuals and therefore their earning capacity which in its wake should bring in increased revenues to the state in one form or the other."

Almost all the states of some stature have efficient standing committees and sub-committees but unless the observations made above are understood and followed, economic planning and the plans of sub-committees will fall far short of the requirements. The funds may absorb the first shock of the after effects of the war, but they can neither be adequate nor last long. They are not meant to be of permanent interest, although they are

expected to leave a land-mark and lay the foundation. The main attempt should be to increase the national income at the rate of say 20 per cent per annum. That will require sinking of money. The state economy will have to be thoroughly overhauled to meet the requirement of the situation. While financial stability has to be achieved by such means as (1) controlling expenditure especially of a non-essential character over-head charges are one of the offenders and (2) limiting recurring expenditure provision for supporting the underfed poor population with limited resources, ignorance and preventable diseases taking heavy toll of human life and causing inefficiency all round, few industries to rapidly increasing population and to relieve the pressure on land, lack of any bold and imaginative approach to stimulate production of the social or promoting utilization of raw materials and mineral and other resources of the state, which are among the common features of India including the states.

No budget can be satisfactory which does not take into account the realities of the situation but only relies on antiquated principles and can be tolerated. States have to re-orientate their budgets to be helpful in the progress of the country. As agriculture is the main industry and revenue producing concern the principal expenditure should be on increasing the produce of the land proper distribution of it by limiting partitions beyond a certain limit and by putting manure in the soil and promoting co-operative cultivation, collective cultivation, even co-operative marketing and such other things. At present as has been already observed little or no attention is paid to these matters. If the budgets of states are examined they lay stress in the more progressive states on the expenditure on raising only the intellectual standard of the people but not of adding to their status in respect of their economic welfare.

ROLE OF STUDENTS IN POLITICS

BY SIR SULTAN AHMED

It is absurd to say, in view of the present psychological climate, that the student has no concern with politics. Instead, he has a special role—a role that he alone can play—though, of course, he has a most delicate and difficult balance to maintain. His business today is to know, to learn, to concentrate on perfecting his mental machinery, so that tomorrow when he will be called upon to do things he may do well. To that end he is to keep his eyes seeing, mind thinking and miss nothing that comes his way. Let him take these impressions to his mental laboratory, and there put these to a rigid searching test. His detachment is not to be an indifference but a discipline. Academy is not to mean aloofness but a discipline. Academy is not to mean aloofness but is to serve as blinkers to prevent him from being distracted by attractions that lie out of his way.

In fact, it would be deplorable if the youth were not to respond to the call of the ideal, unable to represent the self-respect of a great and ancient people, if the youth could remain unaffected by the heroic struggle for a place of honour for their dear motherland. All the same, the young man must be the young man that he is, and yet he must be the student that he should be. He is to feel with all the responsiveness of youth; at the same time, he is to remain under control of hard, cold intellect. Let him take the time he needs to mature his judgment; also let him quietly assess his strength and make sure that he has the requisite capacity to

stand the trial, for unsteady valour does more harm than good to himself as well as to the cause. He may take severe interest in politics, only he will deal with it in his own way—the academic way—not to participate in it actively, but only to probe into it intellectually. All this is to develop his faculty, strengthen his grasp and prepare for leadership in the fulness of his time.

The Hindu code took sufficient care to segregate the *Brahmacharin* (student) from the world of practice, to demarcate the analytical period from the active period. Not for nothing did the ancient law-givers set bounds to 'the four stages of life'. The idea was to let the student grow in an intellectual environment, cool and pure, free either from mental tumult or sordid taint, to let him promote that clarity of outlook and control of thought that should stand him in good stead as and when he enters the worldly stage. Let him take his full academic interest in politics according to the best tradition of the great past.

The objectivity of the student should bear on the vital questions of the day and bring that vitality in thought that will be capable of shaping the future. There are times and perspectives when thinking is not the meanest part of practical things to do. Thinking is not contradiction of action but the preparation for it to gain the power to direct. Students should steer clear of passions and slogans with the intellectual apparatus that is theirs, and to act with the vision of

to come, when it may be their turn to do so.

But I do not wish to convey that the task of the young explorer will be soft and smooth. He will have to develop a lofty faith in himself, believing that on him devolves the rare honour of setting aright a mad world, of implementing a new law of behaviour. Though a great victory has just been won peace is yet far away. The young generation is privileged by the creative process of history to be enrolled as the craftsmen of a world-reconstruction.

The young man of to-day will have an exacting, but none the less exciting, role to play when the curtain rises for him. He is to drag this desperate world out of the very depth of destruction, and re-start it along the path of fellowship, which man in his clannish pride has deserted. He must feel that he is right in the vortex of dynamic ideas that ferment the world of events. He is called upon to realise his creed and plunge into the thrill of battle forthwith in defence thereof.

NEED OF THE HOUR

BY MR. SUNDER LAL SHARMA, M.A., F.F.C.S. (Eng)

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It is not generally realised that the aggregate expenditure charged to revenue during the last six years of war (September 1939 to May 1945) increased from Rs. 85.15 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 512.62 crores in the year 1944-45. The civil expenditure has rapidly increased from Rs. 38.97 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 123.40 in 1945-46, a rise of almost Rs. 90 crores a year.

The above figures suggest that the Government of India should make an honest effort to curtail and control expenditure. Waste of the taxpayer's money can no longer be excused on the score of war.

Now I come to inflation. India was living on hopes that after the war there would be substantial improvement in the food and cloth situation, but the fabulous prices now prevailing in the country clearly indicate that the situation is far

from encouraging. Particularly, the food position in the country is becoming very menacing and unless adequate measures are taken, there is bound to be famine on a large scale. A famine, which causes distress everywhere, is bound to unsettle things and create unforeseen difficulties in every direction. It is really pitiable that India, the home of cotton and textile industry, cannot clothe her teeming millions.

Deterioration in health is another affliction of the people of India.

Sir John Megaw, who was for some time the Director General of Public Health with the Government of India, came to the conclusion that 60 per cent of our people are either badly or poorly nourished.

Dr. Aykroyd says: "The majority of the people lives on a diet far remote from the most moderate standards of adequate nutrition."

Opening the Tuberculosis Health Visitors class at the New Delhi Tuberculosis clinic on November 20, 1945, the Director General, Indian Medical Service and Chairman, Tuberculosis Association of India, observed.

Even now we do not know, with any degree of accuracy what the size of the problem is, but we do know that at least 500,000 people die of tuberculosis every year and that at least five times this number are infected by this disease and are spreading this infection among those immediately surrounding them. It is, therefore, a matter of major and instant importance to this sub continent that immediate and effective steps be taken to cope with this problem, and if there is one class of workers more than another on which the success of such steps depends it is upon the tuberculosis health visitor.

With the grim spectacle of the Bengal Famine behind us and with the above crop of statements, it requires no argument to show that India occupies the lowest place in the comity of Nations.

Next comes the problem of education. No political battle can be won, no great industrial or economic development can be expected, no social reform can be brought about among people who are largely uneducated or badly educated. All our leaders have insisted—and insisted rightly—on the supreme need of taking all possible steps for introducing free and compulsory education throughout the length and breadth of India. They want our educational system to be reorganised, for they strongly feel that on a properly organised and effective system of education alone depends the future of our motherland. Why not, therefore, allow the present system of education to go through the purifying flames of a renaissance for the good of the country and the Nation? Education must be rooted in the social

matrix of India, in the context of her genius and evolution.

Next I would refer to the problem of employment and social security. Mention must here be made of the last I L O Conference held in Paris Addressing the Conference, Sir Samuel Runganadhan, India's High Commissioner in London, said.

I now turn to what India has done during the last year in regard to matters covered by the recommendations on employment and social security adopted by this Organisation at Philadelphia. In the first place, mention must be made of the introduction of an employment exchange scheme which involves the establishment of an employment service with a number of directorates, an immense task in a country of the size of India that a few years back had nothing of the sort.

The scheme, though designed, in the first instance, to deal with the resettlement and reemployment of those who have been occupied, whether as combatants or otherwise, in India's war effort, will, it is hoped, eventually develop into a permanent employment service directed towards achieving full employment and higher living standards for the people of India. This scheme has involved the setting up of training schemes to provide the necessary staff and the whole is being pushed forward rapidly so that the target of 71 exchanges may be reached by next March.

Next I would refer to a scheme for the health insurance of industrial workers, prepared under the orders of the Government of India by Dr Adarkar, which aimed at the establishment of compulsory health insurance for industrial workers. After this report was prepared, the Government of India were fortunate to obtain the assistance of experts from the staff of the International Labour Office in the persons of Mr Stack and Mr Rao who visited India in the Spring of this year, and we are most grateful for that assistance. They pointed out the opportunity that existed for including at once, and not later as had originally been proposed, with the health insurance scheme, employment injury and maternity benefit to make one uniform scheme. This has been done and a most up to date scheme has been prepared which is now under consideration by the Government of India.

It is most unfortunate that many plans and schemes do not take cognizance of the real living conditions of the masses and even if some consider them they lack sanction behind them.

The rising tempo of general unemployment in India is causing widespread concern. The problem of resettlement of demobilized personnel in civil life threatens to assume serious proportions if adequate steps are not taken in time to solve it or to keep the harmful effects of unemployment within reasonable limits.

A grim vision of the shape of things to come in "the world of tomorrow" is slowly unfolding itself. We have to see whether democracy will survive or not. True democracy consists in an attitude which comprises:

(a) the acknowledgment of the manhood and womanhood of each and every individual without any regard for caste, creed or colour;

(b) a respect for the generic essence of manhood and womanhood as comprising those faculties of reason and conscience through which the light of truth finds its way everywhere; and

(c) an all-compassing and compassionate love of men and women as seekers after truth.

Democracy so conceived is founded on a disinterested acknowledgment of all claims of humanity and is, therefore, in keeping with the deep-rooted idea of morality. In plain language it is that form of social organization which can be said to be right in a universal sense. And although our social life is enriched by keen competition, democracy, like our religion, brings home to us the message of equality, unselfishness and unadulterated co-operation. So inescapable is this truth that it may be said to be the central truth of the moral life. In the words of

Mr. Perry:—"If democracy is to survive its present ordeal and live on, the democratic peoples must take the offensive all along the line—the offensive against error, the offensive against external enemies, and the offensive against inertia and reaction within their own house. They must be sustained by conviction of the right, by confidence in their strength, and by hope of attainment.

The advantage of the offensive has its moral as well as its military application. If we are not to be compelled again to obey a counsel of desperation, we must in the hour of military victory translate the achievement into an attack with political, economic, scientific, and moral weapons on the old unsolved problems of civilization. If we do not relish the methods which any unscrupulous enemy can force us to employ as the price of our lives, then we must wage our own world war, with our own preferred methods of persuasion, humanity, and justice, and ourselves create, after our own model, the world of to-morrow."

India, unlike other countries, suffers from a number of handicaps and hurdles in its way of progress and advancement. It is the duty of the State to see not only that nobody starves but to ensure that the economic machinery of the State runs smoothly and efficiently. Generally speaking, the State's help is needed in almost every walk of life. It is only by co-operation between the State and its people that a policy can be effectively followed. Through their co-ordinated efforts they will be able to raise India to prosperity.

PAKISTAN IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY

BY PROF DHARM PAL, MA,

(D A V. College, Lahore)

THOSE who are clamouring for Pakistan would be well advised to study carefully the history of India. The experiment of Pakistan was tried under the most favourable circumstances in the fifteenth century. Taimur's invasion dealt a death blow to the tottering Delhi Sultanate. This led to a regrouping of Hindu and Muslim powers. The political system of India as it took shape in the later part of the fifteenth century presented the following interesting features.

There was a belt of Muslim territory stretching from Afghanistan to Bengal. This Muslim zone included North West Frontier Province, Multan, Sindh, Kashmir, Punjab, U. P., Bihar and Bengal. The second Muslim zones consisted of Gujarat, Malwa and Khandesh. Wedged in between these two Muslim zones was the Hindu belt of territory represented by Rajputana and Central Provinces. In the Deccan the Muslim Zone stretched from the Nerbuda to the Tungabhadra river. This formed the Bahmani kingdom. The Hindu Zone stretched from the Tungabhadra river to the extreme south of India and formed the Vijaynagar empire. This is a rough sketch of the Pakistan system of the fifteenth century. Let us see how it worked in actual practice. It is clear that the circumstances were very favourable for the working of the scheme of Pakistan. The Muslims dominated Northern India. The northern Muslim Zone included the fertile Indo Gangetic plains. It had a fine recruiting ground in the Punjab and the

North West Frontier Province. Its economic resources were almost inexhaustible. It had a teeming population. The Muslims moreover occupied a commanding strategic position; the Hindus wedged in between the Muslim Zone of Northern India and the Muslim Zone of Gujarat, Malwa and Khandesh could have been easily squeezed out of existence. The barren deserts of Rajputana and the wild highlands of Central India could not supply to the Hindus the economic resources, which are the sinews of war. From all points of view it appeared that the Hindu resistance would collapse under these unfavourable circumstances. Yet the very danger of being annihilated called forth a superhuman effort on the part of the Hindus. In sheer self-defence the Rajputs turned their zone into a military state. The cultural and economic activities of the state were entirely subordinated to the military activities. With grim determination the Rajputs carried on the war against their enemies. Rana Sanga, the ruler of Mewar, was able sometimes even to carry his plundering raids into the very heart of the Delhi empire. The pressure of Rajput influence increased so much in Malwa that its ruler Mahmud II was compelled to appoint a Rajput—Medni Rao—as the Prime Minister. This alarmed the Muslims and the Muslim ruler of Gujarat came to the help of Mahmud while Rana Sanga came to the help of Medni Rao. The Muslim forces were defeated. Mahmud was taken prisoner. He was restored to power and

thus Malwa came to be included in the sphere of influence of the Rajputs. But this perpetual struggle between the Hindu and Muslim States of Northern India weakened them so much that it paved the way for the foreign invasion of India under Babar. Babar defeated the Muslims at Panipat in 1526 and the Hindus at Khanwa in 1527. Thus the results of the Pakistan movement were the perpetual religious wars, the subordination of the cultural and economic activities of the state to the military activities and the destruction of both the rival powers by a foreign power. But it was in the Deccan that the evil effects of the Pakistan movement came to be felt sharply. The Vijayanagar empire was founded to preserve Hindu culture and civilization. During the reign of Ala-ud-Din Khilji the Muslims had destroyed the Hindu kingdoms. As Sewell has put it, "Everything seemed to be leading up to but one inevitable end—the ruin and devastation of the Hindu province, the annihilation of their old royal houses, the destruction of their religion, their temples and their cities. All that the dwellers in the South held most dear seemed tottering to its fall." It was to safeguard Hindu religion, honour and political power that Hari Har and Bukka laid the foundation of the city of Vijayanagar in 1336 on the banks of the Tungabhadra. Facing this Hindu Kingdom was the Muslim Bahmani Kingdom. Thus commenced the religious wars of the Deccan which lasted for over 200 years and which involved in common ruin both the rival powers. These wars were waged with all the ferocity born of religious and

racial antagonism. It was total warfare. Neither man, woman nor child was spared. Non-combatants and prisoners of war shared the same fate. The following examples illustrate the intensity and ferocity of the struggle.

(i) The Hindu ruler Bukka crossed the Tungabhadra, captured the fort of Mudgal and put the garrison (800 Muslim troops) to the sword. The Muslim ruler Mohammad Shah I swore that he would not end the war against Vijaynagar until he had killed a hundred thousand Hindus. He invaded the Hindu territory at the head of a large force. The Hindu army took shelter in the strong fort of Vijaynagar. Mohammad Shah ordered that the scorched-earth policy should be followed. Thus the Hindu territory was ruthlessly pillaged and 400,000 Hindus—most of them being non-combatants—were put to the sword. After this 'blood-bath' peace was concluded.

(ii) The Muslim ruler Mujahid renewed the war against Vijaynagar. An indecisive battle was fought, Mujahid however showed much generosity in dealing with the enemy. He spared the lives of 70,000 Hindu prisoners of war. This act of magnanimity was appreciated by the Hindus and good relations came to be established for some time between the two kingdoms.

(iii) The struggle was renewed during the reigns of Feroz Shah and Ahmad Shah Wali. Ahmad ravaged the territories of Vijaynagar and put to death 20,000 non-combatants.

What was the effect of these incessant religious wars? The wars were fought with grim determination with the definite

object of annihilating the rival power. It was total warfare and it involved utter disregard of the ordinary rules of warfare—the destruction of non-combatants was a common feature of these atrocious wars. The 'scorched earth' policy was followed systematically. The result was that both the kingdom neglected their economic and cultural activities and devoted their energy entirely to the development of their military resources. In short both kingdoms tended to become military states. The Bahmani and the Vijaynagar kingdoms can boast of no renowned philosopher or eminent scholar and artist. It was an age of military adventurers. It was an age rich in deeds of valour but barren in those arts and crafts which add to the glory of mankind. Both the kingdoms were well balanced and frittered away their energy and resources in fruitless wars of extermination. No state can continue to bear the strain of prolonged warfare. In the end both the kingdoms collapsed under the strain of continuous warfare for two centuries. Vijaynagar was the first to go under. When the Mughals established their empire in Northern India and the Rajput resistances collapsed, the Muslim pressure increased in the Deccan and Vijaynagar was destroyed after the defeat of Talikota in 1565. The destruction of the flourishing city of Vijaynagar recalls to us the bombing of the modern cities of Moscow, London, Berlin and Hiroshima. No mercy was shown to the vanquished. Here is a graphic description of the destruction of Vijaynagar given by the historian Sewall—

"The third day saw the beginning of the end. The victorious Mussalmans had

halted on the field of battle for rest and refreshment, but now they had reached the capital, and from that time forward for a space of five months Vijaynagar knew no rest. The enemy had come to destroy, and they carried out their object relentlessly. They slaughtered the people without mercy, broke down the temples and palaces, and wreaked such savage vengeance on the abode of the kings that with the exception of a few great stone-built temples and walls, nothing now remains but a heap of ruins to mark the spot where once the stately buildings stood. They demolished the statues and even succeeded in breaking the limbs of the huge Narasimha monolith. Nothing seemed to escape them. They broke up the pavilions standing on the huge platform from which the kings used to watch the festivals and overthrew all the carved work. They lit huge fires in the magnificently decorated buildings forming the temple of Vittthalaswami near the river and smashed its exquisite stone sculpture. With fire and sword with crowbars and axes they carried on day after day their work of destruction. Never perhaps in the history of the world has such havoc been wrought and wrought so suddenly on so splendid a city, teeming with a wealthy, and industrious population in the full plenitude of prosperity one day, and on the next seized, pillaged and reduced to ruins amid scenes of savage massacre and horrors begging description.

But the Muslims had won a pyrrhic victory. The Muslim kingdoms too broke down under the strain of prolonged warfare and shortly afterwards were swept away before the sweeping tide of Mughal conquests. Pakistan in short spelt disaster for both the Hindu and Muslim kingdoms and wrought havoc. The experiment proved a dismal failure.

THE PRIMARY TEACHER'S PLIGHT

BY MR. N. A. SHAH

“UPON the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends.” The White Paper on post-war expansion of the British system of education opens with these words. England is spending about Rs. 32.2 per head of population on education. India is spending less than 9 annas per head. If Britain needed the admonition cited above, what about India?

India must rouse herself and reorganise the whole system of education. But whatever the system, the predominant factor in the success of all education is the quality of the teacher. It is a notorious fact that the teaching profession in this country is miserably paid.

As early as 1877, primary teachers began on a salary of Rs. 15 and finished with Rs. 60. At that time post-masters, sub inspectors of police and head-clerks of the education department received Rs. 60 at the end of their services. The maximum limit for them has gone up and now stands at double or treble the original figure. On the other hand, the grade of the primary teacher is reduced from Rs. 15—60 to Rs. 15—40.

Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoolla, who was in charge of education in 1919, introduced the time scale and raised the maximum to Rs. 75 and at the same time introduced the selection grade. Those who had received the first year training were started on Rs. 15, those who had 2 years training on Rs. 20 and those who had passed the Vernacular Final were given Rs. 25. Mr. Sathe and Dr. Paranjape, two leaders of the Bombay Legislative Council, felt

that the salaries given to the primary teachers were too low and so they issued a plan. According to their plan, the first year trained teacher was to get Rs. 30, the second year trained Rs. 35 and those who had passed the vernacular final were to be given a start of Rs. 40 and the ceiling fixed for all was Rs. 80. Besides those who were taken up to the selection grade were to rise up to Rs. 100.

Dr. Paranjape became the Minister of Education in 1921. He was very enthusiastic in the beginning and some teachers were started on the newly recommended scale. He also promised to introduce the full scheme in course of time. But, with the passage of time, his enthusiasm waned; and under the guidance of Mr. Hesketh, he struck at the very roots of education. Training schools were closed down in many districts. The course was cut down from 3 to 2 years. The number of fresh students to be admitted was also reduced. Entrance examination was abolished and admission was given on the basis of selection. The method of selection introduced the pernicious element of communalism.

The Primary Education Act was passed in 1923. Under this Act the whole responsibility—financial and administrative—devolved on Municipalities and Local Boards. The District and Local Boards became responsible for the spread of education and making it compulsory. Early in 1921, the grades of all public servants were revised. The revised scale of pay for primary teachers heralded their difficulties. Under the revised scheme, a

special allowance for presence was introduced in spite of protests from primary teachers. This allowance generated jealousy amongst them.

Then followed the period of retrenchment. Educational grants given to local bodies were cut down. This led to a stoppage of allowance for presence. But they were assured that when the cut in grants was restored the allowance would be renewed. Bearing this in mind the pension contribution paid into government continued to include pension contribution based on allowance for presence.

The Congress Ministry during its regime passed the resolution No 99 on 4th October 1938. They did restore the education grants but they cancelled allowance for presence without making a relative increase in salaries. This step led to grave unrest amongst primary teachers. It led to the appointment of the Moos Paranjape committee to enquire into their grievances.

The Moos Paranjape Committee recommended that all those who received the allowance for presence during the previous years should get it and it should be termed personal pay. This recommendation was accepted and the government by their resolution No 72 dated 18th October 1938 recommended to all the local boards that personal pay be given to primary teachers. Unfortunately most of the local boards refused to sanction the personal pay and thus set aside the government resolution.

Later the "More Committee" was appointed. This committee was asked to investigate the problem of training the primary teachers. But it went beyond its

terms of reference and recommended that trained teachers may be given Rs 25 to 40. This recommendation was at once accepted by the government and as a result of it, teachers who got Rs 60 about 70 years back now get only Rs 40.

The existing position bears the only explanation that the authorities responsible for education do not regard it as a service of any real public importance. The Sargent report states, 'The average pay of primary teachers in government schools is Rs 27 per month and in private schools it is generally lower, in one large province the average pay less than Rs 10 per month.'

In 1942 the Central Advisory Board of Education appointed a committee to consider the whole question of recruitment, training and conditions of service for teachers. This committee recommended that the minimum national scale for teachers in Junior Basic (primary) schools should be Rs 30—1—35—3 (biennially)—50 per month, the same scale is recommended both for men and women. The committee regard it as essential that teachers of village schools should have free houses, where this is not possible 10 per cent should be added to their salaries. This scale may be increased up to 50 per cent to meet the needs of areas where the cost of living or other factors necessitate a more generous scale, that is, in Delhi or one of the provincial capitals the initial salary may be raised to Rs 45 and the maximum to Rs 75. The committee was further of the opinion that all recognised teaching service should ultimately become pensionable and that where no pension funds exist or can be expected to exist in the near future contributory provident funds should at once be established on the basis of 50 per cent contribution from the teacher and the balance from the employer.

A national government appears to be in the offing and let us hope Education will receive the priority it deserves under it.

WELLS: A MODERN PROPHET

BY MR. A. B. PAILO, M.A.

H. G. WELLS finds himself like Hamlet commissioned to set aright a time that has gone out of joint. He thinks that this world of ours is just a dirty hole peopled by dirty, ignorant men. The social order which prevails now is one which Wells can never brook. He finds that man has again become a mere plaything at the mercy of chance. Things are again happening at haphazard. Everything has got out of control. Things have got so far out of control that we merely looked on with helpless submission as two of the bloodiest and most horrible wars in history came swooping down upon us. With its stupid and meaningless patriotism and its eternal chatter about nationalism, humanity is on the very verge of wrecking world civilization altogether. The division of the world into small nations which are perpetually at loggerheads, they know not why, is a most nonsensical one. Why not we stand together? What if we slung overboard our foreign policies and petty jealousies and silly ambitions of world domination? Is it right and proper to oppress the weak? After all no good purpose is served by making a war and destroying many lives and wasting much material. War is mere senseless destruction begotten of blind hatred and ignorance.

And Wells hates all wars and all militarists just like Gandhiji. He has written bulky books to show how silly a thing is to make war and how stupid a creature is a militarist. In "The Outline of History" (a very bulky book with

plenty of pictures) he has piled the great war-mongers of the world with ridicule. He makes Alexander and Caesar and Napoleon very silly and ridiculous. He wants to cure the world of its war-mania. And in "The Shape of Things to Come" he prophesies a world free of the curse of war. He makes it a very delectable land and leaves it to work its effect upon us. If we once give up our fondness for war we will be able to dispense with the huge armies and navies and armament factories and we will find plenty of time and money to spend on useful ends.

War is not the only ugly aspect of modern life against which H. G. Wells rants and raves. He takes very strong exceptions to the way in which our economic problems are handled. Man's dominion over money is incomplete. Money is just an untamed wild animal. It is perpetually getting out of control. The last economic depression is a very good example to show that man had made a mess with money. Wells is for making money a willing and obedient slave of man.

This is after all a minor aspect when compared to the other economic ills of the world. Wells (like any of us) is horrified at the scandalous stupidity of modern man which allows such a horrible demon as capitalism to go at large and work havoc at will. Again and again in his writings he reverts to this theme. The only spell which will exorcise this demon out of our world, according to Wells is Socialism. But Wells himself is not quite sure of the type of Socialism that he

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wants At one moment he would advertise the Fabian brand of Socialism, only to revert to an attack against it the next moment He is a very queer figure and one has his misgivings as to the fact whether after half a century of writings and prophecies he himself is sure of the type of Socialism he wants He is quite definite that he wants Socialism but of what type?—that let the mood of the moment settle He does not like the Marxian communism, he does not like the Russian Bolshevism In "The Shape of Things to Come" he has few kind words for Joseph Stalin

The ideal world of Wells is a world completely free of the threat of war where Wellsian Socialism prevails But this alone will not satisfy him He does not want any crowned heads or tonsured one either to molest the piping times of peace that are to be He does not want any conflicting and intolerant religions in his new Utopia If you want any religion in the new world you can choose the Wellsian breed For Wells in his variety is also a bit of a religion maker What that religion is you will not easily find out In "The Outline of History" he would speak of the Kingdom of God and elsewhere of a strange and nebulous God to whom we all owe allegiance But one would not be very wrong if one says that his religion like that of the Chinese followers of Confucius is one of good conduct He wants the citizens of his ideal world to be tidy and prosperous He wants them to be healthy They are to love each other and avoid all bickering and probably they are to grow no beards also

He wants thus to bridle the dangerous horse of modern civilization which is getting out of hands and bolting just as John Gilpin's horse bolted away with that worthy He wants to save humanity seated on this wild and refractory horse from being dashed against the pavements as the wild horse makes its fearful antics

This is what one makes out of the self contradictory views and statements of Herbert George Wells who has never enjoyed a reputation for the sweet virtue of consistency A rotting and sinful world begets a prophet and this sinful and rotting world has begat H G Wells This sinful and rotting world of ours has set many other wise people thinking in recent times but it has begat only one Wells This world set the fat and jolly Gilbert Keith Chesterton thinking, it set the lean and lank Bernard Shaw thinking, it set the pugnacious Hilaire Belloc thinking But none of these became a prophet, at least to any notable extent But if you open Gardiner's "Prophets, Priests and Kings" you will meet both Shaw and Chesterton Obviously they are neither kings nor priests They are there because they are considered prophets You will look round for the prophet of the true breed and you won't find him there If you want to meet him you will have to open another book of Gardiner's and that is "The Pillars of Society" One wonders what kind of a pillar H G Wells is to modern society. He is concerned more with the shaking down of the pillars of society and erecting of new ones than anybody else in the modern world This odd thing (I mean

the absence of Wells in the array of Gardiner's "Prophets, Priests and Kings") is to be accounted for by the fact that Wells developed prophetic proclivities a bit late in life.

Wells is quite unlike Belloc or Chesterton. These latter two are just like any of us. We all belong to that cheerful fraternity of souls which believes that happiness is to be had by looking back and not by looking forward. Our Garden of Eden lies at the back of us. We yearn for the cheerful days that are never more to come. Our Golden Age is a past age. But Wells being a prophet of the true stamp spurns the past as ugly and imperiously points forward to the future. His Golden Age is to come.

The psychology of prophets is very simple. They are very downright people and Wells is no exception. He has got only two colours at his disposal. He can paint in black and also when it suits him in white. The past and present he has smeared with black. He is busy whitewashing the future. And as in the case of the great prophets no man is divided in his mind about H. G. Wells. People either think him a very devil or they think him the herald of a new world order and fall at his feet and worship him straight. People generally lose their heads over H. G. Wells. To some Wells is panacea; to others Wells is anathema.

Literary Talents of the Indian Civilians

BY MR. R. SATAKOPAN, M.A., B.L.

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THE Indian Civilian belongs to a brotherhood three and a half centuries old. This Order has witnessed a longer number of years and greater vicissitudes of life than has been the case with any other civil service in the world. From a petty Writer in the service of the East India Company, the Indian Civil Servant has risen up to occupy most of the distinguished and coveted posts under the Crown. One Civilian, Sir, John Shore, later Lord Teignmouth, became even the Governor-General of India. Except for the three major Presidencies of Madras, Bombay and Bengal the Civilians are invariably the Governors of the rest. Four Indian Civilians have been raised to the British

Peerage, Lords Lawrence, Macdonnell, Meston and Hailey. Lord Metcalfe "had the three greatest Dependencies of the British Crown successively entrusted to his care." The Indian Civilian started thus as a petty merchant, shook the pagoda tree, turned a soldier and finally stumbled into an Empire in India which is the brightest jewel in the British diadem. He can hold any post from the assistant collector of revenue to the governor of a province, from a political agent over frontier tribes to the political adviser to the Crown Representative, from the chief justice to the bishop. Thus he gains an experience which is as varied as it is wide and he is thus in a position to know a good many

things about the country of his adoption. Whatever may be said about the work in other spheres of this 'institution which built up the British raj, the British Civil Service in India', there can be no two opinions on a more selfless, more outstanding and a more glorious work that the Indian Civilian has left behind him in the sands of time. They are the various literary monuments that stand four square to all the winds that have raged against him in subsequent years. His love of India had inspired them, his brilliant intellect had made them possible, and it was a praiseworthy conspiracy between a keen insight and a large heart.

Such works are marked by certain characteristics. They are first and foremost concerned with Indian subjects and problems. Secondly they are of a serious and scholarly nature. Thirdly they are, what Ruskin calls, 'books of all times'. Fourthly they bear the impress of a lifelong research, started when first set foot in India and concluded long after retirement. Some of the books are the results of nearly forty and more years of persistent research. But, fifthly, such outputs have not been uniform. From 1601 to 1772 he was a pure trader, from 1772 to 1833 he dealt with both trade and politics, till 1921 he was an administrator and the transfer of India to the 'Crown' in 1858 made not a great difference to him. From 1921 began a slow transfer of responsibility to popular hands. The 1935 Act is the next of the stages to the promised goal of the Dominion Status of the Westminster variety. Of these four stages he was 'literarily' at his best in the third period

when he was 'monarch of all he surveyed' with his rights and responsibilities none to dispute. The reasons are not far to seek for this lack of uniformity.

Three events affected the I C S more than any other thing. The first and the earliest was the introduction of the merit system. He was the first in the world to enter by the 'competitive' door, and even the British Civil Service was sealed off the evils of nepotism only later. This introduction of the merit principle sounded a welcome death knell to the palmy days of patronage. The second was the Indianization of the services, especially the I C S, the premier service of them all. It broke the principle that not only the control but also the agents of control were to be the exclusive monopoly of the ruling race. The third was the introduction of responsible government in 1921, which closed the 'Golden age of the Indian Bureaucracy'. It began happily the slow replacement of the 'superintendence, direction and control' of the 'Moghul of Whitehall' by the popular ministers at Delhi and the provinces.

Of these periods and incidents it is idle to expect literary talents of a high order in the patronage days. Selected mostly for reasons other than pure merit, intellectual pre-eminence can hardly be expected to prevail among them. The competitive system naturally produced men of the very best calibre. Their intellectual ability found extra scope in literary pursuits. The introduction of the competitive system synchronised with the transfer of India from the Company to the Crown. This closed the troublous times

of the Company days. Empires had been rising and falling and Writers wrote with a sword by their side. The Company itself had been struggling for existence first and for mastery later, and it is therefore difficult to expect the civil servants of the company to turn to serious scholarly researches. Thirdly the love of India which could mature in the quiet soil of the post-mutiny period could not be expected in the get-rich-quick days of the company. Douglas Dewar in his *Bygone Days in India* (1922) advances another reason for this paucity, that the company's servants were overworked and underpaid. Therefore such of master-minds as produced works of a very high order like Montstuart Elphinstone, Sir Henry Elliot, Henry Thomas Colebrook, Sir Alfred Lyall may be said to have proved the exceptions.

The sixty years from 1858 may be said to be the best of the three and a half centuries. There was a golden harvest of literary endeavours. Robert Sewell, Vincent Smith, Sir William Hunter are names to conjure with. Taking any side of the Indian picture we find the civilians in the forefront. Some of those who founded and took an abiding interest in the growth of the Indian National Congress were the Indian Civilians. In ethnology, epigraphy, ornithology, economics, history, philology, the religions and religious lores of India—practically in every sphere of literary action we find the names of the Indian civilians only. They are the pioneers in the field. The reasons are not far to seek. The competition—wallahs were very brainy men as a class. Their keenness of

perception combined with mastery of style was responsible for such pieces of masterly and monumental workmanship. The conditions for such research were also, secondly, favourable. Times had quietened. The map of India had taken a permanent shape. The civilians were assured of a safe and quiet future. They ruled over a "loyal and law-abiding people." The fond interest in all that concerned India manifested itself in an eager enquiry into her past. The materials they needed they could command from their official position and it cannot be said that they were overworked. They made precedents and did not have an over-inquisitive secretariat and a burdening mass of rules and regulations over their heads in those days of slow travels and tedious marches. They chose his vocation and worked on their hobby. The results were marvellous.

But now it must be said there has been a decline. No single reason can be assigned for that. Perhaps the truth lies in and between a variety of causes. First of all many of the civilians could not reconcile themselves to the trend of events following the August Declaration of 1917. They had worked under a feeling that the welfare of the Indian masses was a solemn trust left under their care by the inscrutable ways of the divine Providence, and they could not visualise that the fulfilment of such a high responsibility is more so possible under popular ministers. Up to the end of 1923 one in six retired on the proportionate pension and one in ten up till 1930. Premature retirement became a rule and the U. P. Government reported in 1924 that,

There are distinct signs that the Services are losing their former keenness. Since they have no longer have the power of shaping policy to the extent which they had; they no longer feel that the progress of the country depends on their efforts nor indeed that any efforts are likely to have abiding results.

Under such a feeling it is difficult to expect scholarly research to flourish at least to the extent it did under the pre-Montford days. Many expressed themselves that the romance of the Indian Civil Service has become a memory of the past. As Mr. Hilton Brown, late of the I C S, put it in his book *Dismiss* "There is no civil service now; the old service is dead and that too without any decent interment." It cannot be said, as Douglas Dewar said of the company's civil servants, that they are overworked to-day. Much of his work has been shifted to other shoulders. But that he is much immersed in the desk work is proved by the endeavours of the Marquess of Linlithgow who in one of his broadcast speeches said to the district officers that one of the first duties of his viceroyalty would be to discover how "you may be relieved. . . of some part of your desk work. . .", so that they may spend it among the people.

It cannot be advanced as a serious reasoning that with the advent of Boses, Ramans, Sircars the Indian civilians have receded to the background, and that they have left the field clear to such professional masterminds in the research sphere. Nor can it be said that subjects for original research have been exhausted in India, or at any rate so far as the civilian ranks are concerned. Research cannot be compartmentalised into civilian and non-civilian and probing into India's past cannot be claimed

to be a monopoly of one sect or division. Can it be said that the civilian has ceased to love India? No. Difference there might be in the degree of love but a bit of indifference to India's past cannot be called a dislike of the land which has done no harm. Or can it be that he is not very much interested in the people who have begun to question his ways of government? Or could it be that the seeds of racial discord which have been sown in the early years especially since the Mutiny have borne unwanted fruits to the disgust and despair of the civilian that he is driven to bide his time of service and wait for the happy days of lurlough and retirement after the long years of exile in a strange land? As the Marquess of Zetland wrote in 1928, "In the days when non-co-operation was at its height, the members of the I C S fought their lone battle away in the Districts. . . mentally a prey to that brooding atmosphere of hostility and unreasoning hate which dried up the very springs of a man's joy in living" And naturally the joys of literary research are likely to get 'dried up' with it.

Another reason which is advanced for the paucity of literary pursuits is the time taken to digest the cartload of codifications which bind his activities now. Codifications in the form of Manuals have invaded every branch of the administration. They are useful no doubt as a means of simplifying and unifying the increasingly complex work and systematising the administration as a whole but the frightening amount of codifications are sufficient to kill the initiative, resource

and independence of any man. Rt. Hon Edwin Montagu observed this even as late as 1913 while introducing the budget on the floor of the Commons. He said that "every year sees an increase in the inflexible rules laid down for the guidance of all grades of officers. . . . I have heard of an officer who said that when he joined the service a small volume of rules was sufficient to guide him when he went to camp; now he has to pack a portmanteau with codes of regulation." Thus "line upon line, precept upon precept, they have limited independence. There is less scope for individual initiative and the officer of government has become more the interpreter of rules and regulations." Naturally this ought to have gone on increasing and this code-bound civilian lost also with other initiatives, the initiative to undertake research into India's past.

What about the future? Though it may not be possible for the civil servant of the future to engage himself in research in the same way as did his predecessors, he has still an important part to play which should not be lost sight of. There is many a problem in which only a person who has life long worked at the wheel is capable of saying the last word. With his wide experience of men and affairs, he can draw freely upon his accumulated knowledge. The universities are beginning to play a vital part in the field of research and they are bound to play a more vital part in the future than in the past. The civilians are the products of the universities

and it is expected that in future they will be sent to the universities in turn for training on important lines and not to England which happily the war situation has stopped. Research into important aspects of the administration is being taken into hand, and it will not be an excellent work if the research student has only the published and the printed materials in the dull drab of the libraries at his disposal to draw out a thesis. It is here that the civilian can play the most useful part. He can be co-opted with a research student and both can work under the university professor. The civilian will bring to bear upon his work his knowledge of the working of the administration and the research student will infuse his broad ideologies upon the subject which no service under the government would have dimmed. The practical experience of the administrator can be yoked to the enterprise of the research scholar, both working under the aegis of university. The civilian does not have sufficient leisure and the research scholar cannot be credited with sufficient first hand information on the subject chosen for him. Each can pool the strength and the weakness of the other and in this way excellent work can be done. The public services would be carried into an ampler air of contemplation and reflection about social purposes. It will add to the reality of the university studies. At the same time it will also bring the calm cool and the considered temper of the university into the office.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

British Cabinet's Mission to India

THREE Members of the British Cabinet are coming out to India to continue and complete the task undertaken by the recent Parliamentary Delegation to this country. This is a welcome decision which shows that the Labour Government is alive to the urgency and importance of implementing the pledges which have long remained a dead letter. It is something that they realise that the situation would deteriorate if prompt action is not taken. India is in a situation where any further delay or provocation would be definitely dangerous.

We are glad that Lord Pethick Lawrence, the Secretary of State for India, whose sympathy for this country is so well known, will himself lead the mission. Sir Stafford Cripps, his colleague, with his experience of 1942, is an invaluable asset. The third member of the mission is Mr A V Alexander, a top ranking official of the Labour Party who may be expected to throw in the weight of his authority in favour of any liberal scheme for India.

It would be unfortunate if even so responsible and authoritative a body should go back without a definite achievement to their credit. And we are glad to have the Prime Minister's assurance that the mission is clothed with sufficient authority to implement its decisions. For as the *Manchester Guardian* warns:

This time a decision has to be taken whether Indian parties agree or not. While the view of leading Indians will govern the shape of the settlement, British advice will presumably support any solution which does not require partition of India.

And the Secretary of State has done well to add:

We go ready to translate British promises and pledges into action. We do not seek to provide anything incompatible with the freedom of India to control her own affairs. We are determined to do everything in our power to bring about agreement and enable India to frame a new constitution.

India is in an expectant mood and her leaders are anxious to help the authorities.

in all possible ways if only a settlement could be reached without violence or recrimination. "The Labour Government must act boldly if Britain is not to be virtually at war with India" as the *New Leader* organ of the Independent Labour Party, truly says.

"The right of India to independence must be recognised without equivocation," the editorial adds. The three Cabinet Ministers should leave at once with authority to transfer rule immediately to India's trusted leaders. Prison doors should be opened to-morrow morning to every Indian jailed for differences arising from India's fight for independence and immediate preparations should be made to withdraw British armed forces from India. Only by drastic action on these lines can we be saved from a conflict which will disgrace the Labour Government and bring untold disaster to ourselves and the East.

Labour Government's India Policy

The Prime Minister has done well to clarify the position in respect of the Cabinet's forthcoming Mission to India.

Speaking in the House of Commons on March 15, Mr Attlee declared that it was the Government's intention to give the Mission as free a hand as possible. This is good. For it was the lack of such authority and the frequent need for "instructions" from Home that led to Cripps' failure.

Referring to the Opposition's demand that minority rights should not be ignored, Mr Attlee made it clear that a minority, however powerful should not be allowed to impede the nation's progress.

We are mindful of the rights of the minorities and the minorities should be able to live free from fear. On the other hand, we cannot allow a minority to place their veto on the advance of a majority. You cannot make Indians responsible for governing themselves and at the same time retain over them the responsibility for treatment of minorities and powers of intervention on their behalf.

That is the correct position for a democrat. And it is a position too that Lord Samuel maintained with great eloquence and vigour against Tory intransigence at the Round Table Conference.

It is comforting to be told that Government will not be content with

merely asking for an agreed solution. Mr. Butler, who opened the debate, promised active assistance in facilitating such agreement.

I should like to make it clear that we are not only definitely pledged to accept any solution which commands itself to Indian opinion but that it is emphatically in our own interest to bring about a radical improvement in the situation which is one of utmost gravity.

In a spirited appeal to Indian and British leaders Prof. Laski has also pointed out that no minority interest, however important, should be allowed to take up an attitude in which it sought, for the achievement of its whole programme, to break the purpose for which the Cabinet Committee had come to India before discussions actually began.

"This is the eleventh hour", asserted Prof. Laski earnestly, and at such a time it behoves Indians of every creed to remember that the most urgent matter is preservation of the unity of India which is the vital source of its strength.

Congress and the Cabinet Decision

There is no doubt the Prime Minister's speech in the House of Commons has helped to create the right atmosphere for the ensuing negotiations. Past experience has bred some suspicion of British intentions and even some well-known leaders expressed their misgivings as to the outcome of the proposed visit. But Gandhiji promptly advised the country to suspend judgment. And Mr. Aitlee's speech has had the desired effect. The Congress President has reciprocated this gesture of goodwill and Pandit Nehru has welcomed the new "tone and approach." But expressions of goodwill and friendliness cannot take one very far by themselves. As Moulana Azad reminds us:

The real problem to be tackled now does not concern theoretical principles, but actual practice and from this future results will naturally flow.

It is with a view to facilitate this practical work that the Congress Working Committee, on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, has appointed a small "ad hoc" Committee consisting of the Congress President, Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel to carry on actual negotiations with the British Cabinet delegation.

Congress Majorities in the Provinces

As we go to press the results of the Elections in U. P. and Bihar show that Congress commands absolute majorities in these Provinces. In U. P. Congress has captured 140 seats in a house of 228 while in Bihar Congress has won 98 seats as against the League's 34 in a house of 152.

The same is the story in other Provinces. The Frontier Province, which is supposed to be the pivot of the Pakistan Empire, has a full fledged-Congress Government. Dr Khan's position is unchallengeable. In spite of the hectic activities of Mr Jinnah and his henchmen in the Punjab, there is a Coalition Government with the Unionist Khazir as Chief Minister. Assam, which for some unaccountable reason Mr. Jinnah includes in his Pakistan, has installed a Congress Ministry. Only in Sind there is a League Ministry, but that, as every one knows, is a gift of the Governor and its existence is precarious.

All this is an ironic commentary on the League's claim. But Mr. Jinnah now says that he is not so much concerned with the elections as with the final goal of Pakistan!

C.R.'s Withdrawal

"Now that the urgent job of selections for the legislature is all over let me leave the scene," wrote Mr. Rajagopalachari to Mahatma Gandhi at Poona on February 21. C.R.'s reason for withdrawal from election is that his decision to, work unmindful of his critics is not worthwhile and he must give it up.

Many will deplore this unfortunate end of a crisis that has been brewing in Madras

politics for some time past. For friends and foes alike admit C.R.'s special and outstanding gifts for Parliamentary leadership. And at no time are his courage and initiative and statesmanship more necessary than now when far reaching changes in our constitution are impending. There is no doubt that South India will be the poorer for his retirement from Parliamentary life.

We say Parliamentary life advisedly, for his role as guide, philosopher and friend, in the public life of the country, must continue uninterrupted. A seasoned politician like C.R. knows the vicissitudes of public life and can accept the inevitable with philosophic resignation and even with a touch of cheerfulness. For C.R. is at heart a scholar and a recluse and can now return to his favourite studies with alacrity.

It is strange that Gandhiji's well intentioned encomium on C.R. should have had an effect the very opposite of what he had intended. Yet the reaction is not ununderstandable. In recent years C.R. has had to contend with more than one faction. Orthodox congressmen could not reconcile themselves to his attitude to the 1942 struggle nor swallow his Pakistan pill in defiance of Congress discipline. A bold and intrepid leader must sometimes face the penalties of divided counsel.

Yet his critics no less than his friends will always look to him as to an elder statesman for guidance in the coming months if not within, yet outside the legislature. He can never forsake the cause of the Congress or the country. This, as a contemporary rightly points out, is particularly necessary at a time when a Cabinet Mission is expected to visit this country as plenipotentiaries of the British Government to negotiate a settlement with the Indian people. It is one thing to withdraw from a provincial election, but quite a different thing for a man of his calibre and experience to retire from politics altogether before the country achieves its freedom.

The Revolt of the R.I.N.

The orgy of violence and hooliganism that has disgraced Bombay and Calcutta and other cities in connection with the so called meeting of the ratings of the Royal Indian Navy has been rightly condemned by all responsible leaders. Gandhiji has tried to argue Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali out of her indifference to the ethics of violence or non violence. Sardar Patel intervened to advise the ratings to surrender and lay down their arms, while Pandit Nehru who flew to the scene of danger had no hesitation in telling the people that "India has no use for violence in her struggle for freedom."

"If I am satisfied that violence is necessary to win the freedom of India I shall be the first to give the call", said Pandit Nehru "and I will come out openly with such a call but I am at present satisfied that non violence can still help India to march rapidly on to freedom."

Now that order has been restored it is necessary to enquire into the why and wherefore of all this trouble. Why did the ratings, so efficient in war time, and habitually so loyal and disciplined at all times, turn against their own officers? It is worth enquiring into to avoid a fresh outbreak. Now, nobody could defend all that has happened in Bombay and Karachi. But one should remember that the strike itself was the symptom of a malady. If the Government are wise they will treat the malady and not confine themselves to the symptoms. That malady is the ill treatment of the men by the Government and their officers, says Maulana Azad the Congress President.

For 150 years or longer the Indian services have been subject to this discriminatory treatment. Now that India has come of age and Indians generally are keenly conscious of national dignity and self respect, racial discrimination is very keenly felt and resented. It is quite obvious from the facts as they have been reported that Indian ratings of the R.I.N. went on strike as the result of what they considered was a gross insult to national self respect.

It is represented that their grievances are real and their demands just. Hence for immediate enquiry and

The Food Situation

The threat of another famine, far exceeding in scale the disastrous Bengal famine of 1943, was foreshadowed by spokesmen of the Government in the Central Assembly. This revelation, coupled with the plans for meeting the dire situation, came as a rude shock to an unsuspecting public which had counted on the prospects of a peaceful aftermath of the war. Lord Wavell's dramatic dash to the drought affected areas and the urgent despatch of the Food delegation to England and America give us a measure of the seriousness of the situation. The Viceroy lost no time in contacting the leaders of political parties to co-operate with Government in their efforts to save the people from starvation. Lord Wavell himself in his broadcast outlined certain measures which have since come into operation. Discussing the food problem in the *Harijan*, Gandhiji advised the people not to oppose useful Government measures:

Increased rations will mean that we will be left without any food whatsoever before the next harvest is in, and the poor will have to die an untimely death. We should take every care to avoid such a calamity. It will therefore be wisdom on our part to put up with a reduction in present rations.

To grow more food is not impossible. Grain and cloth dealers must not hoard, must not speculate.

I have little doubt that if the mercantile community and the official world become honest, we, such a vast country, can just tide over the difficulties, even if no help comes from the outside world which is itself groaning.

Above all Gandhiji suggests that a national Government should be formed at once, representative of the elected members of the Central Legislature, irrespective of parties, to meet the present food crisis in the Country.

I personally feel that the present irresponsible executive should be immediately replaced by a responsible one chosen from the elected members of the Central Legislature.

I also personally feel that this responsibility should be shouldered by the elected members of the Central Legislature, irrespective of parties, for, the famines of cloth and food is common to the millions of India.

Indians in South Africa

Events in South Africa are moving fast. Indians over there and the Government of India have laboured ceaselessly to bring home to the South African Government the serious injury that is being done to Indians in that colony. All efforts to stop the anti-Indian Bills have failed.

A South African delegation is already in India to press the claims of Indians on the Government of India. Another deputation is going to Britain and U. S. on the same mission.

Mr. Rustomji, leader of the Indian delegation revealed,

that the Government of India had asked for the postponement of the new legislation (announced by Field Marshal Smuts recently) and had made representation to hold a Round Table Conference between the Union Government and the Government of India to consider the whole policy of the Union Government against non-white peoples.

The Viceroy regretted that this request had been rejected by the Union Government. As the head of the Government, Lord Wavell had notified the Union Government of the termination of the trade agreement between India and South Africa on a notice of three months.

This retaliation has evidently piqued the South Africans and the Union Assembly has already passed the first reading of the Bills! And now the Congress Working Committee, meeting at Bombay, asks the Government of India forthwith to withdraw the High Commissioner if the Union Government would not suspend the proposed legislation! The resolution advises the victorious Allies to take notice of the contemplated action of the Government of South Africa and expresses the hope that even at the eleventh hour, the Government of the Union of South Africa and its white settlers would listen to reason and appeal to the moral law by which mankind lives.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

BY 'CHRONICLER'

Stalin Attacks Churchill

OTHER times other manners. When Nazi Germany was triumphing in Europe the British Prime Minister Mr. Churchill flew to meet Stalin any number of times. He paid tributes to 'the valiant Russian peoples' and 'my wartime Comrade Marshal Stalin'. Now that the tension has eased and the Axis back is broken, Mr. Churchill has returned to his old Tory game. He wants a closer union of Britain and America to put Russia in its proper place.

But Stalin knows the Britisher too well to be caught napping.

Mr. Churchill's speech at Fulton, Missouri, on Mar. 5 has roused Generalissimo Stalin to reply in forceful terms. At various points he accuses Churchill of being slanderous, rude, without tact, offensive, mad and a danger to peace.

Stalin accuses Churchill of aiming at war with Soviet Russia, and adds: 'It must be noted that Mr. Churchill and his friends bear striking resemblance to Hitler and his friends.'

In fact Mr. Churchill has now adopted the position of a warmonger.

Hitler started his work of warmongering by proclaiming racial theory. He declared that only people speaking the German language were a real nation. Mr. Churchill also starts his campaign of warmongering with racial theory asserting that the English speaking nations are the only nations of full value and must rule over the remaining nations of the world.

Palestine for Arabs

Arab countries have a completely united front on the Palestine question and if necessary are prepared to fight for their cause. M. Azzam Bey, Secretary General of the Arab League told the Anglo American Commission of Enquiry on Palestine the other day. Presenting the League's cause he declared: 'There is not a single difference between the Arab countries on Palestine. In the past we fought for 200 years for Palestine. We are prepared to fight again in order to prevent Jews from carrying out their designs there. Palestine must continue to be an Arab country.'

New Japanese Constitution

It is said that the foundations for a democratic Japan were laid on March 5 when General MacArthur, Supreme Allied Commander in Tokyo, put the seal of approval to the country's 'peace' constitution.

The new constitution renounces war and forbids the State to assume the rights of belligerency. It also, for the first time, places sovereignty 'squarely in the hands of the people.'

Nine of 17 articles relating to the Emperor in the old Meiji constitution have been scrapped completely and each of the remaining eight articles has been re-written.

The words 'the Emperor is sacred and inviolable' have been eliminated, the Emperor being described merely as 'symbol of the State and of the unity of the people.'

The new constitution lays down further that the Emperor shall perform only such State functions as are provided in the constitution—promulgation of cabinet orders, law amendments, treaties, etc.—and shall never have powers related to Government.

The foremost of new constitution's provisions is that which, abolishing war as a sovereign right of the nation, for ever renounces the threat or use of force as a means for settling disputes with any other nation, and forbids in future the authorization of any army, navy, air force or other war potential.

The Iranian Tangle

The Soviet refusal to evacuate troops from Iran until further 'clarification of the situation' is regrettable. Considerations of her own security might have dictated this unhappy step. World opinion will naturally be in sympathy with Iran, in spite of Iran being a pawn in the game of Anglo American politics. A quick solution of the Iranian tangle is necessary in the interest of the Soviet and

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

THE TROPICAL FAR EAST. By J. S. Furnival. Oxford Pamphlet on World Affairs. Oxford University Press. Bombay.

We get a lively and readable account of the Tropical East, that rich and vast region which was submerged by the high tide of 'Japanese Victory' in 1942. It constitutes in Asia, the British territories of Burma and Malaya, Thailand (Siam) and the French territory of Indo-China and to the south and east, in the sea-space between Asia and Australia, the largest archipelago of islands on the globe. Mr. Mr. Furnival gives us a bird's eye-view of this rich and luxuriant region, its geographical and economic features, its people, their organisation and customs and its recent history and points out the essential unity of the region and the need for studying it against a background of that whole.

THE INDONESIAN QUESTION. By Kaushik. Published by Thacker & Co. Bombay. Price Re. 1.

The situation in Indonesia, not yet having resolved into final shape, any publication must of necessity be sketchy. This pamphlet gives an outline of the main events of the struggle for Independence and some details about the more prominent leaders. The author is in sympathy with the movement. He tells the reader of Dutch methods of colonising and reconquest. He is hopeful of the final success of the Indonesians.

SOME NON-POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CONGRESS. BY Dr. H. C. Mukerjee. Hamara Hindustan Publication. A. S.

The author reviews the activity of the Congress and assesses the gains to the country through what may now be called the constructive programme of Gandhiji

THE COTTON LACE INDUSTRY OF SOUTH INDIA. V. Tekumalla. Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society Ltd. Madras. Rs. 1-4-0.

This book is one in the series entitled *Economic Studies in Coastal Andhra*. Cotton lace industry is a very little known industry which requires to be encouraged. It is a pity that the thread of the required fineness is not available in India and has to be imported from England. So also the knitting hook. Introduced by missionaries the industry had made good progress in the coastal areas of Andhra Desa enabling a woman to earn 6 to 8 annas a day. But out of the total output only 3 per cent was consumed in India, the rest was exported to foreign countries. The future of this cottage industry will depend on many considerations, some of which the author has dealt with in this book. A very useful publication.

The author, however, could have done well to include a few illustrations.

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE. K. M. Gururaja Rao. Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co Ltd. Bangalore City. Rs. 2.

The author, a retired officer of the agricultural department of Mysore has described the principles and practice of irrigation in popular language. This will be useful to agriculturists and gentleman farmers settled in villages.

I FOUGHT FOR MY COUNTRY'S FREEDOM. Chitra P. Mehta Hamara Hindustan Publication. Bombay. As. 8.

This contains the experiences of the author in the August 1942 struggle. The story is told in simple language in an interesting manner.

THE ART OF DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP By Abul Hasanat Standard Library Dacca Rs 5

Here is a book of general interest to all readers—a welcome addition to a class of literature which aims at entertainment no less than instruction. Significantly enough it is written by a member of a profession in which one is accustomed to give as well as receive orders. Mr Abdul Hasanat of the Indian Police knows the value of discipline in the management of men and the principles he enunciates to ensure efficiency in leadership are enforced with ample illustration from history and literature. These add spice to the maxims on the management of men with which the book abounds.

WHAT LIFE SHOULD MEAN TO AN INDIAN
By R R Kumari—Minerva Book Shop Lahore Price Rs 4/8

In this thought provoking book Mr Kumari points out that the masses of India need this worldliness and not other worldliness or spirituality which have enslaved us for a long time. He outlines a scheme of life conducive to mental health, political freedom, economic security and moral elevation of Indians. His enquiries into the fundamentals of life, its origin, progress, development and organisation are very stimulating and suggestive and will be of use to students of politics and sociology.

BOOKS RECEIVED

WHAT NEXT CAN INDIA BE UNITED? By I M K Narappa Tata Institute of Social Research Bombay

WORLD OF DREAMS By John Joachin Carlsson Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay

THE STRUGGLE OF MODERN MAN By T G Pearce Oxford University Press Bombay

GREAT AMERICANS By C Bernard Rutledge Illustrated by Jack Matthew MacMillan & Co Ltd London

INDIA SPEAKING Edited by Sr Manlal Nanavati and C N Valli MA Vora & Co Publishers Ltd Bombay

THE MUSLIM LEADER 1814-43 By Wilford C Smith The Minerva Bookshop Lahore

UTILIZATION OF INDIA'S MAN POWER By P S Naidu MA Oriental Publishing Company P O Box 1155 C I O Bombay

THE ART OF DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP By Abul Hasanat Standard Library Dacca Rs 5

21 SHORT STORIES International Book House Ltd Bombay

THE BEST FOOD FOR MAN By Dr Anna Kingsford MD International Book House Ltd Bombay

MARSHAL TITO By Michael Fedor Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 4/2

MY EXPERIENCE ABOUT ROBERTS IN THE PLAINS OF INDIA By D K Kerr Himalaya Publications Patna

THE TEST TUBE BABY By Florence Elsie Himalaya Publications Patna

LUCRETIUS By K Ahmad Himalaya Publications Patna

HOW MAN BECAME A GIANT By M Ilan and E Segal Translated by Beatrice Kinkead Kitabstan Allahabad

CHEMICAL ELEMENTS By I Nechaer Translated by Beatrice Kinkead Kitabstan Allahabad

TRENCHING By Sam Higgabotham Kitabstan Allahabad

DEVADASI TEMPLE DANCES By Santosh Chatterjee MA The Book House 10 College Square Calcutta

FRENCH STORIES FROM ALPHONSE DANDET By Indira Sarkar With an introduction by Prof Oliver Lacombe Chatterjee Chatterjee & Co Ltd College Square Calcutta

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS VOL XXI 21ST MEETING HELD AT UDAIPUR December 1914 Manager of Publications Delhi

IN TUNE WITH MIRA BAI (A LOVE ROMANCE) AND A SHEAF OF SONGS By Wenler with Foreword by Dr Sachchidananda Sultana M A Published by Bai Bahadur N Dey 2 A Convent Road Delhi Dm

STALIN WEITS & KEYNES ON STALIN WEITS Talk Vora & Co Publishers Ltd Kailashdevi Road Bombay

SEN STRAM A POEM IN THREE MOVEMENTS By John Cowe, Cope & Leavel London and

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- February 1. In the House of Commons Mr. Attlee explains Atomic Energy development.
- February 2. Deposed Maharaja of Rewa exiled from C. P., U. P., and Central India States.
- February 3. Gandhiji worships at Sri Meenakshi temple at Madura.
- February 4. 24 leading Indian economists warn the Government that India is on the brink of disaster and urge them to halt currency inflation.
- February 5. Sir M. Yamin Khan is elected Deputy President of the Central Assembly.
- Assam and Sind Ministries resign.
- February 6. Maharaja of Mysore declares open 12th All India Olympics at Bangalore.
- Sarawak ceded to British Crown.
- February 7. Resumption of Civil administration in Andamans is announced.
- February 8. Viceroy visits drought-affected areas in Tanjore and North Arcot Districts.
- Mr. Bardoloi announces new Congress Ministry in Assam.
- February 10. Gandhiji's *Harijan* weekly reappears after 3 1/2 year's suspension.
- February 11. The Viceroy consults Gandhiji and Mr. Jinnah re food situation.
- Sir Frederick Burrows, Governor designate of Bengal arrives.
- February 12. Mr. Kamaraj Nadar resigns Presidentship of Tamil Nad Parliamentary Board as a sequel to Gandhiji's comment in the *Harijan*.
- February 13. Mob violence in Calcutta; Police open fire 15 times.
- Personnel of the Food Delegation announced.
- February 14. Congress victory in Frontier Province.
- February 15. New Cabinet for Egypt.
- February 16. Editors' Conference meets at Allahabad.
- February 17. Russia vetoes U. S. proposal for Levant.
- Lord Kellern appointed to investigate Food position in SE Asia.
- February 18. Sir Edward Benthall presents Railway Budget in the Assembly.
- February 19. Announcement in both House of Parliament of visit to India of three Cabinet Members, Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Sir S. Cripps and A. V. Alexander.
- February 20. Mr. K. M. Munshi rejoins Congress.
- February 21. Lord Keynes appointed Governor of the International Monetary Fund.
- R-I-N Men exchange fire with Military in Bombay.
- February 22. Rioting in Bombay; Indian ratings surrender on Patel's advice.
- C. R. withdraws from Election contest and recommends Mr B. Sambamurti for University seat.
- February 24. Assembly carries adjournment motion re R. I. N. strikes.
- February 25. H. H. Aga Khan and Bhopal ruler meet Gandhiji at Poona.
- February 26. Sir Arthur Hope leaves Madras.
- Sir Henry Knight, acting Governor, is sworn in.
- February 27. France breaks off with the Franco regime in Spain.
- February 28. Finance Member presents Indian Budget.
- Indian troops to be withdrawn from Indonesia.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



INDIAN THOUGHT AND RELIGION

Writing on the above subject Mr Kalidas Nag describes in the *Hindusthan* quarterly the influence of Indian thought on European and other Asiatic countries. Asoka is supposed to have sent Buddhist missionaries to Ceylon and Burma as well. Indian thought and idealism began fraternising with Chinese thought in the early centuries of the Christian era when Buddhism definitely developed into a mighty organ, as it were, of Hindu Internationalism.

Taoism and Confucianism were the two great systems of Chinese thought, but they had to adjust with the diverse schools and institutions of Indian Buddhism. Indian scholars like Kumarajiva and Gunavarman carried their learning and valuable manuscripts to far off China, crossing the dangerous desert of Gobi and treading perilous paths of the snow bound Himalayas and trans Himalayan regions. The Chinese pilgrims and scholars like Fa-hien, Hsuen Tsang and I-tsing, also from the other side undertook perilous journeys to drink at the fountain head of Indian Idealism. Thus through an intensive cultural and artistic collaboration, extending almost over a millennium India and China developed a new phase in the history of Asiatic Humanism.

Like the Chinese, a branch of their southern cousins the Tibetans, adopted Hindu religion and culture and worked for centuries in translating and adapting the recondite books of Hindu philosophy, religion and culture.

Through Nepal and Tibet Indian thought influenced the court of the celebrated Mongol Emperor Kublai Khan who from his capital at Peking used to invite priests, philosophers, artists and artisans from India, for the Khans of the 13th century, the patrons of Marco Polo were devout Buddhists and one of the ancestors of Kullai Khan, under the inspiration of Indian thought, invited a veritable Parliament of Religions in their ancestral province of Mongolia.

In the mainland of India, the great Hindu Philosopher, Sankaracharya (9th century A.D.) through his profound commentaries to early philosophical texts developed the synthetic

philosophy of the Absolute (Vedanta) which came to be modified by later commentators like Ramanuja and Madhva of the Middle Ages.

Meanwhile, the dynamic and democratic forces of Islam from Arabia and western Asia came to influence strongly the life and thought of the Indian people,

and although the Muslim rulers did not actually settle down to govern India before the 1200 A.D., yet as early as 1000 A.D. the great Islamic savant, Al Beruni composed an admirable book summarising the knowledge so far as he could gather in his days of Hindu Astronomy, Mathematics, Philosophy and other subjects. This aspect of cultural collaboration between the Islamic and the Hindu scholars is recently getting its due recognition.

That synthesis forms the basis of the teachings of great popular leaders like Nanak the founder of Sikhism in Punjab, Ramananda, Kabir, Dadu and other mystics coming from the diverse strata of the Indian society. In South India also we find a remarkable devotional literature and hymns composed by some of the devotees from the class of the 'Untouchables'.

When the Christian powers from the west began visiting India in the early part of the 16th century, Christianity, both of the Catholic and the Protestant denomination, began progressively to influence Indian life and thought.

Henceforth we notice a sort of triangular contest between Hinduism, Islam and Christianity as the dominating factors in the evolution of modern India thought. These three currents happily converged in the life and thinking of Rammohan Roy (1772-1833) the Father of modern India. As a free thinker and rationalist he coolly examined the principal tenets of those three main religions and tried to work out a harmonious synthesis through his Brahma Samaj, or the community of God found in 1828. This was the modern manifestation of Indian unitarism which fraternised with the British, Continental and American unitarians and theologians like Channing, Emerson, Martineau and others. Following the Brahma Samaj there emerged other religious fraternities and movements like the Arya Samaj of the Punjab, the Prarthana Samaj of Bombay, the Veda Samaj of Madras and other movements of progressive Hinduism.

Similarly we notice progressive movements among the Indian Muslim and the Indian Christian communities.

MODERN SCIENCE AND RELIGION

More than ever before modern science is deeply concerned with the realities of Existence, writes *Prabuddha Bharata* "though in the course of her investigations, she may stumble at the terrific weapon like the atomic bomb."

"Most of the top scientists, Otto Bahn, Meitner Eurico Ferin, Alexander Saachs, and Peter Kapitza, are to-day pursuing this search, of which Rutherford and Thompson were the pioneers. The disintegration of atom has placed in the hands of man an inexhaustible source of energy, which bids fair to revolutionize world's trade and industry, as well as to explode men's present conception of matter. The power thus let loose is, however, only a by-product, and the real aim is to find out the reality of matter. The reality of matter is the same thing as the reality hidden behind this universe, which is a subject to which religion puts her exclusive claim. Thus religion and science, so far ranged against one another, are now engaged in a common attempt to find the whereof and wherefrom of this universe, an enquiry with which the *Shvetashkata Upanishad* opens, with this difference that while religion claims to have ended her search long ago and recorded its findings in imperishable records, called scriptures, science yet changes her ground from year to year, which is natural because her goal has not been reached, and the search opens out new avenues as time passes."

There is yet another difference which is necessitated by the diverse methods of approach chosen by science and religion.

"Science, though engaged in the same pursuit of the reality of matter, tries to reach it through the five senses of man, augmented by physical aids and mechanical instruments. Religion, on the other hand, renounces the world of senses, for she believes that the reality she is out to grapple is not of the nature of matter and must be sought outside of what is material. Her votaries speculate, meditate, trying to

mould their inner self in the picture of God who is the embodiment of all that is good and beautiful. They turn from the distractions of the world, creating a mental calm in which alone His glory shines, for as long as the mind is possessed by the things of this world its real nature cannot be seen. This is beautifully expressed in a hymn of the *Ishavasya Upanishad*, in which the devotee prays to God to move away the shining golden orb which covers the entrance to the Truth like a lid. The glamour of the material world is the lid which hides the reality, and religion tries to reach the reality by going beyond the material, while science chooses the way of investigation, analysis, and observation of each item of matter which meets her on her way."

DEFINITE DATE FOR INDIAN FREEDOM

Britain must not again make proposals to India concerning her future that are too little or too late, says a leading article in the current issue of the *New Statesman and Nation*. The paper says: "We must not again attempt to make self-government depend on prior agreement between Hindus and Muslims or allow treaties with the Princes to stand in the way. It may be that British Ministers can aid Indians to reach a communal settlement through some form of Pakistan acceptable to Mr. Jinnah and the Congress."

"It is certain that, if our intention to pass over power to an independent Indian Government is immediately made clear, most of the Princes will hasten to come to terms with Indian Democracy. But it is essential for our Cabinet Ministers to state unequivocally that on a date named—say, in a year's time—the British will in any case hand over power to an Indian Government. Only on that basis, can they hope to work out with Indian leaders the terms of an Anglo-Indian Union in which India's equal status is beyond doubt and the interest of both the countries are fostered to their mutual benefit."

PLIGHT OF PRIMARY TEACHERS

Mr M V Donde, President of the Bombay Provincial Primary Teachers Association, has published facts and figures about teachers' salaries in that province. Here are the facts

"No public servant suffers such a terrible hardship as a teacher in a Primary School in this province. He gets under the Education Act, Rs 15 as his salary. For a Primary School teacher the minimum qualification is the Primary School Certificate Examination after a schooling of eight years. With this qualification he is taken up in service on Rs 15 without any grade. When he becomes confirmed, generally after seven or eight years, he gets Rs 20 till the end of his service. There is no scale of salary for him, no increments of any kind. After some years he may get a chance for training in any of the Training Colleges. If he qualifies himself with a training certificate after full two years' instructions, he is promised a grade of Rs 25 1/3 40. This start of Rs 25 he generally gets after a service of 10 or 12 years. After every three years the increment in his salary is Re 2e, As 5 ps 4 due annually but paid after three years. There are not many cases in which a teacher reaches the maximum of Rs 40, because generally he reaches his period of retirement before he reaches his maximum. In the whole department there are hardly 40 per cent teachers who are trained. That means 60 per cent teachers get Rs 20 only as their salary. They start on Rs 20 and die on Rs 20. No public servant is paid so low as that. The teachers, even in these days when the cost of living has gone up by 200 per cent and 300 per cent are not paid dearness allowance. In some cases, after a good deal of agitation, they are paid Rs 3 or 4 as dearness allowance."

Commenting on this, the *Modern Review* observes that the conditions are even worse in Bengal. What wonder then that they should resort to more striking methods

of demonstrating their grievances than meekly submitting to their lot?

"In Bengal, according to Government Reports, the average pay for a Primary School teacher in 1942 was only Rs 9 per month. Even trainee teachers get not more than Rs 12, or at the most Rs 16, only the other day a dearness allowance of Rs 3 has been added to this paltry pay. In their post war scheme, the Government of Bengal could not raise even their target figures over Rs 30 for Matriculates, Rs 22 for other trained teachers and untrained Matriculates and Rs 18 for other untrained teachers."

INDIA'S THREE DOMINANT FIGURES

Lord Chorley, a member of the recent Parliamentary Delegation to India, gives his impressions of Mr Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr M A Jinnah in the course of an article in the *Observer*. Here are his views of these whom he describes as "unquestionably the dominant figures" on the Indian scene.

Mr M A Jinnah "Jinnah completely dominates the Muslim League. He has high qualities of leadership, is a great advocate, and is quite inflexible in his resolve to secure the end he has set himself—the safety of his own people in their own parts of India."

Mr Gandhi "We had the pleasure of two long talks with Mr Gandhi and were glad to find him well both physically and mentally. In deed, he is remarkably hale considering his age and the privations he has endured. He is very anxious to see the transition to swaraj carried through without violence and should prove a moderating influence."

Pandit Nehru "Nehru's influence depends on the selflessness of the life he has lived for India. Although no longer a practising Hindu—indeed he is credited with being agnostic—his outlook on life is essentially religious and it is to this that his very religious fellow countrymen

GANDHIJI'S FAITH

Is the atom bomb more powerful than Truth and non-violence? Can we adhere to the faith in these twins in these 'days of cataclysmic changes in the world? Mahatma Gandhi, writing in the *Harijan*, answers these questions and incidentally puts before the readers the main objective of his weekly.

"Many readers including English and American, had all along felt a void and they began to feel it more after the defeat of the Fascist Powers. The reason for the feeling was obvious. They wanted my reaction in terms of Truth and non-violence to the various events happening in India, if not in the world. I wished to satisfy this desire

"There have been cataclysmic changes in the world," Gandhiji continues. "Do I still adhere to my faith in Truth and non-violence? Has not the atom bomb exploded that faith? Not only has it not done so, but it has clearly demonstrated to me that the twins constitute the mightiest force in the world. Before it, the atom bomb is of no effect. The two opposing forces are wholly different in kind, the one, moral and spiritual, the other, physical and material. The one is infinitely superior to the other which by its very nature, has an end. The face of the spirit is ever progressive and endless. Its full expression makes it unconquerable in the world. In saying this, I know that I have said nothing new—I merely bear witness to the fact. What is more that force resides in everybody, man, woman and child, irrespective of the colour of the skin. Only, in many it lies dormant, but it is capable of being awakened by judicious training.

"It is further to be observed that without the recognition of this truth and due effort to realise it, there is no escape from self-destruction. The remedy lies in every individual training himself, irrespective of response by the neighbours. The *Harijan* will attempt from week to week to stand for this truth and illustrate it,"

LIBERATED INDIA

David Martin, who during the war, served in India as a pilot with the Royal Canadian Air Force, writes in the American Liberal magazine *Nation*:

"In Indian eyes one great crime is that it keeps India in subjection. England's Parliamentary and judicial system, its philosophy and literature are held in utmost respect by enlightened Indian nationalists. If independence were granted without haggling or recrimination, India's attitude towards Britain would change overnight. A liberated India would look to Labour England rather than to Soviet Russia or capitalist America for moral and political leadership. And through this leadership Britain could maintain the material connections which it is understandable, she is anxious to preserve."

David Martin, who is a frequent contributor to the magazine, left India in September last year, "It was impossible to escape the feeling that something was about to happen," he writes. "Beneath a thin veneer of peace and order, the mounting hatred of the English threatened any moment to erupt. Nowhere was this hatred stronger than in the army and in no strata of the army stronger than among the Officer Corps. During the war it was customary to cite the splendid record of the Indian Army as proof of the basic loyalty of the Indian people. The Indian is a good soldier with a highly developed martial pride. Against a foreign enemy he fights bravely, even when he does not understand the issues. Against his own people he will not fight—not to-day, because for the first time he does understand the issues."

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

ADMINISTRATION OF HYDERABAD

The report on the administration of Hyderabad for Fasli 1351 (October 6 1941 to October 5 1942) published by the order of H E H the Nizam's Government is exhaustive. Opening with a useful general summary, it gives detailed reports of the activities of the different Departments of the administration. One of the busiest was the Department of Statistics which besides collecting social and economic statistics was engaged in answering inquiries about the State's industrial possibilities. The total number of graphs, charts and maps prepared was 672 of which 535 were graphs.

During the year under report 62 meetings of the Select Committees of the Legislative Council were held to consider Bills referred to them and the Council passed 27 Bills.

Of topical interest is the section devoted to irrigation wells. The number of new irrigation wells sunk by ryots at their own cost during 1941-42 was 2017 as against 849 in the previous year. The total cost of the new wells was Rs 1,20,036, the cost per well ranging from Rs 23 in Karimnagar to Rs 425 in Aurangabad. The area irrigated by the new wells was 3,670 acres, approximately 2 acres per well.

SCARCITY AFFECTED AREAS

Owing to unsatisfactory conditions of Kharif crop and failure of Rabi crops the Taluqs of Kushtagi, Gangawati, Sindhur and parts of Manvi in Raichur and Taluqa Parenda of Osmanabad District have been declared scarcity affected areas.

Mysore

CONCESSIONS IN LAND REVENUE

The Government of Mysore have notified the areas in the State where concessions in land revenue which have recently been announced will apply.

The areas include seven taluqs in the Chitaldrug district, namely Chitaldrug, Molakalmuru, Challakere, Hiriyur, Jagalur and Hosadurga. Molakalmuru and Challakere have been granted full concessions. In Tumkur district the taluqs of Sira, Madhugiri and Pavagada have been granted full concessions while Chickanayakanhalli, Gubbi and Koratagere have been granted partial concessions. In Kolar District the taluqs of Kolar, Chintamani, Srinivaspur, Grobidnur, Bowringpet and Malur have been granted partial concessions. In Shimoga district 37 villages have been included in the concessions.

RICE SUPPLIES TO MYSORE

In connection with the reported shortage of foodgrains in Mysore, Dewan Bahadur C. P. Karunakara Menon, Regional Food Commissioner, Government of India, Madras Region, visited Mysore and had discussions with the State food authorities and with Mr. N. Madhava Rao, the Dewan. In company with the Dewan, he inspected some of the areas affected by drought.

In Bangalore the Food Commissioner discussed with the Chief Commissioner of Coorg the question of making available to Mysore any surplus rice that Coorg might be able to spare over and above the 19,000 tons that has already been allotted.

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT FORMED

The Government of Mysore have directed that a separate department for Income Tax in Mysore State be organised under the supervision of a Commissioner of Income Tax, two Deputy Commissioners, six officers and twelve Inspectors.

Baroda

BARODA DEWAN ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Sir Brojendra Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, in an interview to the Associated Press of India, welcomed the attitude of Pandit Nehru to the Indian States, and said: "This attitude is one of goodwill and not of hostility and if the Indian Federation comes into existence, Baroda would be glad to join the Federation and accept the general conditions which will be applied to the British Indian provinces."

The Dewan said: "I am, however, opposed to any constitutional changes at the present moment. This is not an opportune moment for such changes in the States' constitution, because the constitution of the whole of India is now in the melting pot. We do not know whether India will remain united or divided. In this state of things, I am for maintaining the status quo. If any changes are called for they will be effected when we know precisely what our position is in the future India."

As regards the future of Indian States, Sir Brojendra said that the States should be grouped together on an economic basis and not on a political basis. In such a case, Baroda and parts of the Bombay presidency would form an economic unit. "Smaller States have to cease to be independent units in any future constitution. They must either be amalgamated with bigger States or join the adjoining British provinces. In some places smaller States can group themselves together and form a bigger unit but it is impossible for these small States to remain and form a part of the future Federation of India," Sir Brojendra concluded.

THE BARODA INFANTRY

After four years' meritorious service the Second Baroda Infantry, consisting of 840 soldiers returned to Baroda on February 13 in a special train from Bombay when a warm reception was accorded to them at the Baroda Station.

Travancore

A TIME-TABLE FOR TRAVANCORE REFORMS

The probable time-table for the new reformed Constitution was announced by the Dewan-President at the Sri Chitra State Council on February 6.

In reply to a member's question about the duration of the life of the present Assembly, the Dewan explained that a Proclamation embodying the Constitution would have to be drafted very carefully in consultation with constitutional experts, particularly because the Declaration of Fundamental Rights to be contained therein was a matter of very great importance and the question of a British Indian Constituent Assembly would also have to be considered. This would mean two or three months, that is to say by June or July the Proclamation might be ready. Thereafter the Franchise Committee would have to be constituted which would entail delay of another three or four months. Simultaneously labour, industrial and other organisations will have to organise themselves under charitable endowments, co-operative societies, Indian companies or other appropriate Acts so as to be able to send out representatives to the Upper Chamber. Elections might start in January or February next year. Thus, if the scheme was worked out according to schedule the 1947 budget will be taken up and dealt with under the new Constitution.

TRAVANCORE LAWS

After disposing of non-official legislative business, the Travancore State Council adopted three resolutions which were agreed to by the Government. Two of them urged appointment of Committees, firstly to consider and report on the necessity of enactment so as to consolidate laws of succession and inheritance among Hindus of Travancore with a view to their unification and secondly to conduct a survey of the potentialities of cottage industries in the State.

Cochin**THE NEW MAHARAJA**

We congratulate Elayaraja Kerala Varma Thampuran on his accession to the throne of Cochin. The Elayaraja is the first graduate of the Cochin ruling family and was born in 1870. He is a great scholar in oriental languages. He has been evincing keen interest in current affairs and public administration.

In offering our felicitations we wish His Highness a long and useful career as ruler of Cochin.

COCHIN EDUCATION ORDER

The Director of Public Instruction, Cochin, has issued the following order:

"It has come to the notice of the Government that, in some schools under private management, Christian prayers are being conducted during regular working hours. Government desire to make it clear that the practice of conducting prayers during regular school hours is highly objectionable and should cease forthwith. Prayers may be conducted, if necessary, before or after regular working hours of schools, all pupils who do not belong to their religious sect being kept away from prayers."

Bikaner**BIKANER ADVOCATES ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

The need "for the association of the States at every stage of the forthcoming negotiations between the representatives of the British Government and the leading political parties in the country" was emphasised by H. H. the Maharaja of Bikaner, at New Delhi,

Speaking at a banquet given in his honour by Mr. K. M. Panikkar, Prime Minister of the State, the Maharaja urged that the interests of States in all-India affairs should not be allowed to suffer when a "political Cabinet is set up at the Centre in the next few weeks."

Bharatpur**ELECTED MINISTER FOR BHARATPUR**

The Maharaja of Bharatpur has decided to appoint a Minister of the Council of State, who will be elected by a majority of votes on the basis of adult franchise. The only conditions which will be imposed on this appointment are that the Minister must read and write Hindi which is the court language in the State and that he should be over thirty years of age. This announcement was made by the Maharaja on the occasion of the Basant Panchami Darbar.

The Maharaja, making this announcement, said that it had been his policy gradually to give more and more voice to his subjects in the running of his Government. He said that his people could get responsibility granted to them after they had proved themselves fit to shoulder them. He thought it was better "to go slowly and be sure of one's footing than to rush in any changes of administration."

Kolhapur**NEW DEWAN OF KOLHAPUR**

Sir Thomas Austin, Adviser to H. E. the Governor, it is learnt, has been offered the Dewanship of Kolhapur State and has accepted it.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

The outstanding events of 1944 in South African Indian politics were the Pretoria Agreement which was later dropped, and the Pegging Act which remained unrepealed, according to the reports of the High Commissioner for India in South Africa for 1943 and 1944.

Giving an analysis of the political background against which the Pegging Act was passed, the High Commissioner in his report for 1943 says that European South Africans regard Indians as dangerous competitors from the point of view of the threatening European standards of living.

More well-to-do Indians, he says, were imprudent in buying up European property in the heart of Durban with a general election in the offing. The Dominion Party in Natal had realised that its chance of survival at a general election depended on a racial issue and exploited to the full the popular cry of "Indian penetration."

The report refers to the High Commissioner's Bengal Famine Relief Fund, the subscriptions to which totalled nearly £30,000; the opening of a club for Indian Seamen in 1943; the activities of the Indian Remount Purchasing Commission; the reservation of seats in medical and engineering colleges in India for South African Indian students by the Government of India; and increased relief to aged, blind and indigent Indians.

S. A. INDIAN CONGRESS DELEGATION

The official delegation of the South African Indian Congress has arrived in India. The delegation is headed by Mr. Sorabji Rustomji, well-known in South Africa as "the lion," and the other members are Messrs S. R. Nayudu, former

Secretary, A. S. Kaji, former Vice-President and S. M. N. Mahomed, former Committee Member, Natal Indian Congress and A. A. Mirza, former Secretary, Transvaal Indian Congress.

The delegation has come to India to contact Indian political leaders and the Government with regard to the recently proposed anti-Indian legislation in South Africa.

ACTION AGAINST S. AFRICA

The Government of India have decided to terminate their trade agreement with South Africa as part of the counter measures to be adopted in protest against the new anti-Indian Bill. This was announced by Dr. N. B. Khare, Commonwealth Relations Member, in the Council of State on March 12.

Malaya

INDIANS IN MALAYA

Dr. Khare referred to the conditions of Indians in Malaya in a recent interview to the A. P. I. and said that the Government of India were doing their best to help Indians in that country.

A representative had already been appointed there and about one lakh of rupees had been placed at his disposal to give relief to Indians. The Indian Agent there had already appointed welfare officers to look after Indian interests. The Government put pressure on the Government of Malaya to release Indians in detention and their efforts had resulted in the release of all except about 25 persons. A lawyers' committee had been sent to Malaya at the cost of the Government of India and it would defend Indians there. A medical mission with full medical equipment was to leave the country very shortly for Malaya. Permission had already been granted to the Congress medical mission. The Government were also arranging for the repatriation of stranded Indians in Malaya but their arrival mostly depended upon availability of shipping.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CABINET MISSION TO INDIA

Three British Cabinet Ministers are coming to India to discuss with leaders of Indian opinion the framing of an Indian constitution. They are Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade and Mr. Albert Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty. This was officially announced in the House of Lords on February 19. The announcement was made by Lord Pethick-Lawrence who said:

"The House will recall that on 19th September, 1945, on his return to India after discussions with the British Government the Viceroy made a statement of policy in the course of which he outlined the positive steps to be taken immediately after the Central and Provincial elections to promote, in conjunction with leaders of Indian opinion, early realisation of full Self-Government in India

"Those steps include first preparatory discussions with elected representatives of British India and with Indian States in order to secure the widest measure of agreement as to the method of framing a Constitution.

"Second, the setting up of a Constitution-making body and third, the bringing into being of an Executive Council having the support of the main Indian parties.

"Elections at the Centre were held at the end of the last year and in some of

the Provinces they are also over and responsible Governments are in the process of formation. In other Provinces, polling dates are spread over the next few weeks. With the approach of the end of the electoral campaign, the British Government have been considering the most fruitful method of giving effect to the programme to which I have referred.

"In view of the paramount importance not only to India and to the British Commonwealth, but to the peace of the world, of a successful outcome of discussions with leaders of Indian opinion, the British Government have decided with the approval of His Majesty the King to send out to India a special mission of Cabinet Ministers consisting of the Secretary of State for India (Lord Pethick-Lawrence), President of the Board of Trade (Sir Stafford Cripps) and First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. A. V. Alexander) to act in association with the Viceroy in this matter.

"The decision has the full concurrence of Lord Wavell.

"I feel sure that the House will give its support and goodwill to the Ministers and the Viceroy in carrying out a task in which the future of 400,000,000 people and crucial issues both for India and the world will be at stake. . . .

PREMIER'S STATEMENT IN COMMONS

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee in making a similar statement to the Commons, added that the mission would go to India towards the end of March

Utterances of the Day

LORD LAWRENCE ON HIS MISSION

Confidence in the success of his mission to India, because of the men with whom he is going, was expressed by Lord Petrick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, on February 26, at a dinner in his honour.

The problem now was one of great complications and complexities, he said, and the precise road to achieving their end, enabling India to build the basis of the structure of her freedom, might not yet be clear, but the vision of a free India, to whom they could relinquish their trusteeship with pride and honour must and would inspire them in their new efforts to find with Indian representatives the path of co-operation.

"We go ready to translate British promises and pledges into action," he continued. "And we shall not seek in our negotiations to provide for anything incompatible with the freedom of India to control her own affairs. Nor is it our intention to depart from the principle to which we are committed, that it is for India's representatives to choose the structure of her constitution under which she will enjoy freedom and take upon herself the cares and responsibilities of a free people. We are determined to do everything in our power to bring about agreement and enable India to frame a new constitution."

There were irreconcilable elements in the picture he added and almost insoluble problems but he had learned in his seven months as Cabinet Minister that it was the task of Cabinet Ministers to reconcile the irreconcilable and solve the insoluble.

"This great sub-continent of India, which has not less than one-fifth of the population of the world, has in my belief a very great future," he said: "It has the part in the years to come to be a bastion of civilisation in the eastern part of the world. It is our business, and it will inspire me that in helping our friends the Indians to achieve their freedom we are setting free a great spirit to be an inspiration for the future."

NEHRU'S CALL TO NEW GRADUATES

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressed the Annual Convocation of the Calcutta University. The Chancellor, H. E. Sir Frederick Burrows, Governor of Bengal, presided.

Pandit Nehru said: "It seems to me that there has hardly been any time in recorded history that humanity has faced such enormous possibilities of change and transformation as it faces to-day.

"It is obvious that the period of history that we have passed through—these 150 years of British rule in India—is coming to an end. It is obvious that British Imperialism in India is a faded affair or more or less a fading affair, and that India will have to function according to her own policy.

"Have a vision of a new India and Asia, and new world before you. I do not know how many of you will see the full realisation of that vision. It is not that I am talking of a new India in terms of political independence for that I take for granted. The immediate problem before India is feeding, housing, and clothing four hundred million people."

BRAHMINS IN CONFERENCE

Presiding over the Brahmana Conference at Salem on March 9, Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, observed that the Hindu civilisation of which the Brahmin was the symbol, was worth preserving and it was only through this civilisation and culture that the world could be redeemed from its present plight

Mr V L Narasu delivered the welcome address

Dewan Bahadur R V Krishna Aiyar, proposing the President to the chair referred briefly to the circumstances that led to the formation of the Brahmin Seva Sangam and its objects. He referred to the anti Brahmin feeling and mutual suspicions prevalent in South India, which had invaded every sphere of their activity and hoped that as a result of this Conference a machinery and organisation for collecting funds to do planned work would be set up

PUNJAB MINISTRY

His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab has made the following allotment of portfolios among the members of his Council of Ministers

Lt Col Malik Khizr Hyat Khan Tiwana, General Administration and Law and Order

Sardar Baldev Singh, Development

Nawab Sir Muzaffar Ali Khan Qizilbash, Revenue and Irrigation

Lala Bhim Sen Sachar, Finance and Industries

Lala Bhim Sen Sachar in a Press interview asked for public co operation in the discharge of responsibility which the Congress had shouldered for the first time in the Punjab

THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Mr Ananthasayanam Ayyangars cut motion seeking to abolish certain parts of the Information and Broadcasting Department was passed by 61 votes to 40 in the Central Assembly

The Information and Arts Member, Sir Akbar Hydari speaking on the motion, indicated that the cut would not be restored. The amount involved is about Rs 93 lakhs

The Associated Press of India is authoritatively informed that the Information and Arts Department is sending immediately an official communication to the Finance Department of the Government of India that the demand for Rs 93 34,000 which was rejected by the Assembly is not to be restored and that notice will be served without delay to officers and men of the four branches of the Department involved in this cut that their services will not be required as from May 1, 1946

The question will now therefore arise as to the future of the Information Department and whether it will continue at all and if so in what form

THE COUNCIL OF STATE

The life of the present Council of State has been extended till the end of this year and a new Council will be elected in time for the next budget session

The President Sir Maneckji Dadabhoj read a letter which he had received from the Governor General postponing the elections to the Council of State

THE SIND CABINET

Preparations for the great trial of strength between the Hidayatullah Ministry and the Sind Coalition Party are ready on the eve of the first budget session of the new Assembly

Mr G M Syed Leader of the Coalition Party has given notice of a motion of 'no confidence' in the whole Ministry.

UNIVERSITY FOR MAHARASHTRA

The Government of Bombay have agreed to the establishment of a Regional University for Maharashtra at Poona under the title of the "University of Poona".

The University will both be a teaching and residential institution and also affiliate colleges within its regions. The Government of Bombay is prepared to undertake the requisite legislation and financial assistance to the extent recommended by the Special Committee appointed by the Government for the purpose.

That Committee had recommended a non-recurring grant of Rs. 5 lakhs and a recurring annual grant of Rs. 2½ lakhs to help the University to come into being. The recurring annual grant will be subject to periodical review.

It is hoped that the new proposal will receive public support and that the institution has a reasonable prospect of collecting the balance over and above the grant by the Government which is required for its expenditure.

The Special Committee appointed by the Government consisted the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar, Chairman, Dr. Sir R. P. Paranjpye, Sir R. P. Masani, the Rev. Dr. J. McKenzie, Mr. D. R. Gadgil, Mr. B. G. Jagatpand, and Mr. G. B. Jethar.

STUDY OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

The Senate of the Patna University has decided to re-introduce Sanskrit, Persian, and other classical languages as compulsory subjects of study for the Matriculation Examination of the University.

TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

To co-ordinate high technical education throughout India, the Government of India, the United Press of India learns, have decided to constitute an All-India Council of Technical Education with Mr. N. R. Sarkar as Chairman and Dr. John Sargent, Secretary of the Department of Education, Government of India, as Vice-Chairman. The Council will consist of the representatives of the Central, Provincial and State Governments the Chambers of Commerce and Universities.

A high grade technological institute on the lines of the Massachusetts Institute will shortly be established in Calcutta to accommodate about 2,000 students at a time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UNDER SWARAJ

Asked as to the policy of the Congress with regard to the freedom of education, Mr. Kripalani said that the Congress stood for compulsory and free education. He was of opinion that the State could prescribe a certain standard of secular education; as regards education on religious matters, each religion would have freedom. Private agencies would be welcome to conduct schools and they would be entitled to Government grants, so long as they maintained the prescribed standard of secular education.

UNIVERSITY FOR MAHAKOSAL

It is understood that Sir Hari Singh Gour has made an offer of Rs. 20 lakhs to the Central Provinces Government for the establishment of a university for Mahakosal.

Sir Hari Singh, it is understood wants the proposed Mahakosal University to be located at Saugor, his native town.

PRESS LAWS IN INDIA

"A Free India cannot afford an unfree press" said the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru addressing the All-India Newspapers Editors Conference at Allahabad on February 16 on "Press Laws in India"

He said he had been interested in the subject for twenty-five years when he was called upon to serve the Government of India in 1920. Sir Tej referred to the law of sedition, the law of libel and the law of contempt which directly affected the press. The law of sedition was based on the English law, though the English law did not have sedition as a substance offence. The difficulty about the law of sedition in India was not that the law was bad but that it was so difficult to construe the action, said Sir T. B. Sapru. He referred to a certain case in which a paper was prosecuted for sedition for criticising the I C S. because, it was frankly said the Civil Service really formed the Government of India.

Sir Tej continued that if they looked to the case of any country which was governed by its own people, cases on the law of sedition were very few. It was in the peculiar circumstances in India that arguments arose between the people and the Government. However careful an editor might be if he tries to represent the feelings of the people he had to use strong language which the judge might equally honestly held to be seditious. If the new constitution came into force and if India got freedom the question of sedition would become one of minor importance whatever they might say they would not like to overthrow the Government established by law in India.

JUSTICE BYERS OF MADRAS

The Government of Madras after taking advice from the Advocate-General, have informed the Commissioner of Police, Madras, that there should be a full investigation of the shooting incident near Fort Station on February 25.

It will be recalled that a boy was killed in the 'shooting incident.'

The Government of Madras, sought the opinion of the Advocate-General as regards the position of Mr. Justice Byers in relation to the shooting incident.

The Advocate-General has forwarded his opinion to the Government, who have ordered full investigation into the incident.

A case under Section 304 I. P. C. (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) has been registered by the Police under orders from the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, in connection with the incident.

The police are carrying on further investigation.

"For the time being Mr. Justice Byers of the Madras High Court will not sit and dispose of cases."

This was announced by the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court to the Advocate-General who has forwarded the same to the members of the Advocates Association, through its Secretary.

NEW MADRAS JUDGE

His Majesty the King has appointed Mr. Venjamuri Govindarajachari, Advocate, to be a judge of the High Court in Madras upon the retirement of the Honourable Mr. Justice Boduguju Somayya.

INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The new Insurance Act Amendment Bill while carrying several amendments to the existing Act has the following important provisions (48 A) It seeks to disqualify Life Insurance Agents from being Directors of Life Insurance companies. No Insurance Agent who solicits or procures Life Insurance business, and no person acting on behalf of an Insurer who for purposes of Life Insurance business employs Insurance Agents, shall be eligible to be, or remain, a Director of any Insurance company carrying on Life Insurance business. An amendment to Section 39 (7) proposed would set at rest the controversy as to whether nomination in favour of wife or child should attract the provisions of Married Women's Property Act. The amendment, while saying that it is not the intention, runs as follows:

"Provided that where a nomination made whether before or after the commencement of the Insurance (Amendment) Act 1946 in favour of the wife of the person who has insured his life or of his wife and children or any of them is expressed, whether or not on the face of the policy, as being made under this Section, the said Section 6 shall be deemed not to apply or not to have applied to the policy."

ORIENTAL'S NEW RECORD

The amount of new business written by the Oriental Life Assurance Co., during last year was 1,03,310 policies assuring Rs. 25,37,78,788. The above figure while showing an increase of over Rs. 3½ crores in the sum assured over the figure for 1944 constitutes a new record for the company.

LIFE ASSURANCE AND ATOM BOMB

The Sun Life Assurance Society announce that new life insurance policies will not be met if death is caused by atom bombs. Previously many of these policies have covered normal war risks. Now, say the Sun Life, future policies will not cover risk of death as a result of war because of "development of modern weapons."

"If only one atom bomb were to fall on London, it is estimated we would have to pay out £750,000 to policy holders", an official of the Society said. "If however death does occur from that cause, premiums paid will normally be returned."

In our opinion the change in practice is in the interests of the general body of policy holders because due fulfilment of our contracts is thereby safeguarded", said the official. "Only new policies are affected. Existing policies cannot be altered", he explained.

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee declared in the House of Commons that he did not think that the National Insurance Bill providing sickness and unemployment benefits and pensions would damp down adventure and enterprise.

During the resumed debate, Mr. Attlee said: "It would be a disaster, which I am sure will not occur, if people were to regard the prospect of social security as something to lie back upon and not make any further effort. I hope people will work to secure everyone from want in the same spirit as they worked to save all from defeat in war."

THE FIRST PEACE BUDGET

The Finance Member, Sir Archibald Rowlands, presenting India's first peace Budget after six years, in the Central Assembly announced the discontinuance of the Excess Profits Tax after March 31, 1946.

He announced the following proposals regarding taxation:

Duty on kerosene is to be reduced from 4 annas 6 pies to 3 annas 9 pies per gallon

Duty on motor spirit is to be reduced from 15 annas to 12 annas per gallon

Duty on imported betelnut is to be raised to 6½ annas a pound without any surcharge.

Specific duty of Rs 25 per tola is to be imposed on gold bullion and coin.

The existing silver duty of 3 annas 7-1/5 pies an ounce is to be stepped up to 8 annas.

The income-tax rate on the second income slab of Rs. 3,500 to be reduced from 15 pies to 12 pies, and the rate on the third slab of Rs 5,000 from 2 annas one pie to two annas.

The income-tax rate on the balance of income above Rs. 15,000 to be increased from 4 annas 9 pies to 5 annas

The surcharges on income-tax and super-tax are to be amalgamated with basic rates.

The reduction in the present rate of income-tax and super-tax on a company from 11¾ annas to 6 annas by reducing super-tax by two annas and by adding a quarter anna to the income tax.

Earned income relief is to be raised to one-fifth, subject to a maximum of Rs. 4,000 in terms of income.

Differentiation of treatment between earned and unearned income is to be extended to super-tax.

Reduction in the rate on life insurance companies from 5 annas 3 pies to 5 annas.

Discontinuance of the provision for funding a portion of the tax in the case of income up to Rs. 6,000.

Duty on cinematograph films to be made a specific duty charged on footage.

Grant of a special initial depreciation allowance of 10 per cent on new plant and machinery and allowance of expenditure on scientific research.

Relief from customs duty on raw materials imported for industry and reduction in rates on such imported plant and machinery as are now dutiable.

The additional import duty on cotton imposed by the Cotton Fund Ordinance of 1942 to be amalgamated with the ordinary duty which will thus stand at 2 annas a pound. This change is not expected to bring any fresh revenue.

The present uniform extra rates of tax on all sums distributed as dividends is to be changed.

The Finance Member estimated that these proposals would reduce an estimated deficit of Rs. 70.16 crores to Rs. 44.06 crores.

In the course of the debate Sir Archibald observed in respect of his budget proposals.

"It is true I have abolished the D P T. but several things have got to be noted about it. First, it makes no difference to next year's revenue, secondly, its retention would act as a damper on the advance of industrialisation which holds out the greatest promise of increasing in a short time the national income and the earning power of the people, thirdly, at least in the years immediately ahead, it will produce a progressively diminishing yield, fourthly, and most importantly, its continuance carries with it a liability on my part to make good the losses incurred in the transitional period and it is not without significance that the Chamber which Mr. Manu Subedar so ably represents has already tabled a claim that losses incurred during the next three years should be charged back to the D. P. T. already."

WOMEN'S CHARTER

Mrs. Hansa Mehta, President of the All-India Women's Conference addressing a women's meeting at Surat on February 27 demanded all human rights for women. Mrs. Mehta felt that all inequalities between man and woman, so far as these rights were concerned, should be levelled up.

Outlining the women's charter that is being prepared by the All-India Women's Conference Mrs. Mehta pointed out that woman should have equal rights with man in every sphere of life. All women over 21 should have the right of voting and women should be allotted 50 per cent of the seats in all legislatures.

In the economic field the women's charter envisaged by the All-India Women's Conference would demand. Mrs. Mehta added that women be recruited in civil, judicial and administrative services on a par with man. She resented the right of men to spend his income at his pleasure and said that women who were managing the household when man was out for earning his living should have equal rights over the expenditure. The speaker also demanded equality of rights for women on questions of ancestral property, adoption, marriage and divorce.

WOMEN & COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

The value of cottage industries in fostering moral and economic uplift of the people was stressed by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu speaking at "Nari Seva Sangh" premises in Calcutta. Referring to the origin of the Sangh Mr. Justice C. C. Biswas, who welcomed Mrs. Naidu on behalf of the Sangh, said that it was mainly a women's organisation. The direct cause which brought it into being was the famine which devastated Bengal. The object of the Sangh is rehabilitation of distressed womenfolk.

MRS. NICHOL'S IMPRESSIONS OF INDIA

At the meeting of the India League, London, Mrs. Muriel W. Nichol paid a tribute to the women of India. She said:

They are positively magnificent. The slums of Calcutta are so awful that in my sickest dreams I have never imagined anything like them. We have been in India for 150 years and it is a disgrace that these things should exist. I only hope that when we clear out of India, as we must, there will be an era of social and economic development which will convert India into a really great nation that she ought to be. It was an unforgettable moment when we met Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru. The Pandit told me, "I am troubled of the kind of conflict that has gone for so long. I am longing to take a hand in the building up of my country."

The Parliamentary Mission achieved two things. "They convinced Indian leaders that the Labour Government was sincere in its outlook towards India."

MADRAS WOMEN'S PLEA

A plea that greater representation to women in the Legislature of the Province should be secured through the setting up of women candidates for some of the General Seats also was made at a public meeting held at the Memorial Hall, Madras when Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi presided.

Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi pointed out that the Congress had always expressed itself in favour of adult franchise and said that it was rather anomalous that women should claim representation in the legislatures of the country through separate women constituencies. Since the "advent of Mahatma Gandhi into the political field, the women of this country had shown that they were no whit behind the men in the nation's political and public life. If women were to get their grievances effectively redressed, they had to enter the legislature. However much they might believe in the efficacy of the constructive programme, it was essential that women should also capture more seats in the legislature.

BOTHFR OVER A FOREIGN WORD

Gandhiji used the word 'clique' to describe the opposition to Rajaji. This was resented by the President of the Tamil Nad Committee. Commenting on this, Gandhiji writes: "How nice it would be if we had newspapers only in our own language. We would not then be blind persons, one mistaking the tail for the elephant another the tusks a third the trunk for the noble animal all wise in their own conceit yet all wrong in essence. Thus I in my conceit said and still say that the opposition to Rajaji was and is confined to a clique. An esteemed friend and others maintain that I have made a serious blunder in calling the opposition by this name. My application cannot be and was not meant to be applied to the Congress organization whether Provincial Central or any other, which, like the King can do no wrong."

A clique generally does the wrong thing. But surely both my critics and I are right each in our own way and both are wrong. All this bother over the use of a foreign word! If I had written in the national or my mother tongue we would not have quarrelled over a word.

MR A G GARDINER

One of the best known London journalists of the present century Mr A G Gardiner who was editor of the *Daily News* from 1902 to 1919, died at his home in Buckinghamshire at the age of 80.

Mr Gardiner will be long remembered for his brilliant sketches of leading British and international personalities published in three volumes.

L I N T RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions urging the removal of Press restrictions demanding the incorporation in the new Constitution of India of a declaration safeguarding freedom of the Press and welcoming the Government's decision to continue the consultative machinery were passed at the 5th session of All-India Newspaper Editors Conference at Allahabad.

MR MUNSHI REJOINS CONGRESS

Mr K M Munshi has decided to rejoin the Congress on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi. Mr Munshi who was Home Minister in the last Congress Government in Bombay, resigned in 1941 from the Congress.

In a statement announcing his decision Mr Munshi says: "As a result of discussions which I had with Gandhiji recently when Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was also present I decided to rejoin the Congress. In 1941 I left the Congress under Gandhiji's advice, I cannot do better now than to follow his guidance and serve the country from inside the Congress."

MR JINARAJADASA

The installation of Mr C Jinarajadasa as the fourth President of the Theosophical Society took place at the Theosophical Headquarters in Adyar on Feb 17.

Mr Jinarajadasa addressing the gathering said that the only way to build a new world of happiness for all was by each individual discovering himself in a new way and it was the task of Theosophists to teach men to bring out from within the hidden power.

THE LATE J B PETIT

We regret the death of the Bomanji Petit well known mill owner and agent of the Petit Group of mills. He was aged 67.

Grandson of the late Sir Dinshaw Petit the late Mr Petit who was connected with several public institutions in Bombay was the founder of the Bomanji Dinshaw Petit Patai General Hospital. He also started the now defunct *Daily Mail*.

THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope on relinquishing the office of the Governor of Madras left Madras for Bombay en route to England on Feb 26.

Sir Henry Knight the Acting Governor of Madras who arrived in the City the same day was sworn in at the Government House.

REVIVAL OF AYURVEDA

"The welfare of a nation is to a large extent dependent on the guardians of health, the physicians. Those practising the indigenous system have a great share of responsibility, as they alone can reach the people. We should make sincere attempts to revive Ayurveda as a culture," said Dr. (Mrs) G. Sumathi Taranath of the Tungabhadra Prema Medical College, presiding over the Kaumara Bhritya Sambhasha Parishad held at Manipal along with the All-India Ayurvedic Conference.

Dr. Sumathi Taranath said that in ancient days India was famed for the health of its children and for the long lives of its inhabitants. But now, the conditions of childbirth particularly were miserable. Every year there died in this country not less than 2 millions of babies. For every 1,000 confinements, 12 mothers and 200 infants died. The corresponding figures in the United States were revealing. There maternal deaths per every 1,000 were only 23; and those of infants only 39.3.

The average length of life in America and in most European countries was 60 and in Japan 45. But in India it was not even 30.

It was for the Ayurvedic practitioners to consider whether this deterioration was not due, in some measure, to themselves.

NEW T. B. SANATORIUM FOR BENGAL

Bengal is to have a large tuberculosis Sanatorium as part of its important Post-War Public Health Schemes.

The foundation-stone was laid by Mr. R. G. Casey, Governor of Bengal.

The sanatorium is expected eventually to accommodate 600 patients, and construction will begin shortly.

The site has been selected at a place called Amulia in Burdwan district, where the climate is comparatively dry and bracing. A sum of nearly Rs. 3 lakhs has been contributed by Seth Ram Coomar Bangur, a Calcutta businessman.

BHORE COMMITTEE REPORT

"No individual should fail to secure adequate medical care because of inability to pay for it" This, says the report of the Health Survey and Development Committee, is one of the main principles underlying the Committee's proposals for the future health and development in the country. The Committee was presided over by Sir Joseph Bhore and consisted of 24 members (eight officials and 16 non-officials), of whom 19 were Indians and 5 Europeans.

The Committee has drawn up a health plan in two parts, one a comprehensive programme for the somewhat distant future, and the other a short-term scheme covering a 10 year period. "We have taken the country-side as the focal point of our main recommendations, for the debt which India owes to the toiler of the soil is immense. When pestilence and famine sweep through the land, it is he who pays the heaviest toll and yet receives only the scantiest medical assistance. Further, nearly 90 per cent of the people in India live in the rural areas, and the basic problem before the country is the provision of adequate health protection to the preponderantly larger section of the community. We have, therefore, made the villager the chief beneficiary under the proposals," adds the report.

On the administrative side, the Committee proposes: Ministries of Health at the Centre and in the Provinces, and Health Administrations in local areas. The Committee feels that the wide measure of autonomy that has been granted to the Provinces should be respected to the utmost possible extent. "In order to minimise friction and to promote mutual consultations between the Centre and the Provinces in the formulation of health policies and their implementation, there should be established a Central Statutory Board of Health, consisting of the Central and Provincial Ministries of Health,

SCRUTINY OF BANKS RETURNS

Returns under the Demonetisation Ordinance were mentioned in a short notice question asked by Mr Manu abedar in the Assembly on February 7

Mr Subedar asked whether the Reserve Bank of India checked the declarations of all scheduled banks and their branches and whether the Reserve Bank used discrimination against Indian banks by checking their declarations and cash but did not take such action with regard to exchange banks and the Imperial Bank of India

The Finance Member Sir Archibald Rowlands replied I understand that the Reserve Bank Bombay received numerous returns from scheduled banks and other banks established all over the country and it has not been possible to check up all such returns with the figures shown in the books of the banks

Under the orders of the Government of India instructions were however issued by the Reserve Bank of India to their Managers to inspect at their centres the books of all banks whose declared balances exceeded Rs 10 lakhs and others where they had reasons to believe that the returns might not have been prepared in conformity with the requirements of the Ordinance No discrimination in this regard was made between Indian banks and the exchange banks In fact several exchange banks were inspected in Bombay and at centres

NEW INDIA GOVERNMENT LOAN

As it appears that there is a steady demand on the part of institutional investors and the market generally for a long term investment the Government of India have decided to create a further issue of 3 per cent Development Loan 1970 75 for Rs 20 crores

WORLD BANK

The British financial expert Lord Keynes has been appointed Governor of the International Monetary Fund and of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

NO INCREASE IN RATES AND IARES

Prominent features of the Railway Budget for 1946 47, introduced in the Indian Legislative Assembly on February 16 are as follows

A decline of Rs 48 crores in gross traffic receipts from the anticipated peak level of the current year, which will lead to a reduction of the net surplus from 32 crores to 12 crores next year

the introduction of new designs for lower class passenger coaches which will include sleeping accommodation

the inauguration of a Betterment Fund for financing unremunerative improvements and amenities both for the public and staff,

the provision of a lump sum of 2 crores to enable a start to be made with the construction of new lines and relaying lines dismantled during the war and a heavy programme of open line rehabilitation works involving some 20 crores

The Financial Results are as given below, the figures being in crores of rupees

	1945 46	1946 47
Traffic Receipts	225	177
Working Expenses	169 30	125 73
To General Revenues	32	7 36
To Betterment Fund		3

The financial aspect of better amenities for railway passengers and increased pay to lower paid staff was discussed in the Assembly on February 25, during the debate on a Congress Party Cut Motion which was passed without a division Prof Ranga who moved it was supported by Mr D V Karmakar and others

RAILWAYMEN'S DEMANDS

The General Council of the All India Railwaymen's Federation has demanded the immediate appointment of a court of adjudication to arbitrate in the dispute between the Railway Board and the Railwaymen

The Council directed the affiliated unions to take a ballot for a general strike if no reply was received from the Government of India to their demand

A KATHIAWAR ARTIST

Death occurred last month at Rajkot of the prominent Kathiawar Artist Mr. S. M. Booch. After a brilliant career at Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, under such art stalwarts as the late Cecil L. Burns and Rao Bahadur M. V. Dhurandhar, Mr. Booch had made a name as an accomplished portrait-painter, after the style and palette of the late Masters Herkomer and Sargent. Among his models and patrons, he had distinguished personages like the Residents of Western India States Agency, the rulers of Kathiawar States and other Government and business notabilities.

He carried away several highly prized awards in the Art Exhibitions at Bombay, Delhi, as well as at Simla under the patronage of Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy of India, whom Mr Booch could count among his well-wishers. His portraits were remarkable for their striking likeness and rich colour technique.

NATIONAL THEATRE FOR BRITAIN

A national theatre for Britain, under discussion for many years, is to be formed by a union of the Old Vic and the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Fund. A joint council has been set up with the support of the State-sponsored Arts Council of Great Britain and a national appeal for £500,000 will be launched to enable the theatre to be completed within the next five years. The Shakespeare Fund, which has been accumulating during the present century, provides a nucleus of £80,000.

A site has been accepted from the London County Council on the Surrey bank of the Thames, not far from the historic site of the old Globe playhouse, where Shakespeare first produced his own plays.

The establishment of a national theatre will also provide a wonderful opportunity for training young actors and actresses and help to preserve the purity and continuity of the English language.

INDIAN OLYMPIC GAMES

The twelfth All-India Olympic Games came to a successful conclusion on February 8. Nearly 800 athletes from 15 provinces participated in the various events. Patiala annexed the championship in the Men's Section scoring 87 points. Bombay came second with 46 points. In the women's section, the championship went to Mysore with 37 points. Bombay came next with 23 points.

The Santosh Memorial Trophy for cycle race was won by Bombay. The weight-lifting championship ended in a tie between Bengal and Bombay.

Two new records were set up. One was in the 5000 metres walk, Sadhu Singh of Patiala finishing in 26 minutes 13.5 seconds being A. K. Dutt's (Bengal) time of 26 minutes 30.2 seconds. The other new record was established by J. Vickers of Bombay who finished 110 metres hurdles in 15.2 seconds, breaking the previous record of 15.6 seconds.

At the conclusion of the games, there was a March Past of athletes, Dr. T. C. M. Royan, Minister, taking the salute. He also distributed trophies and certificates to the various winners.

INDIAN TEAM TO ENGLAND

The following sixteen players have been selected to form the Indian cricket team to tour England this season:

- Nawab of Pataudi (Southern Punjab) (Captain)
- V. M. Merchant (Bombay) (Vice-Captain)
- R. S. Modi (Bombay)
- D. D. Hindlekar (Bombay)
- L. Amarnath (Southern Punjab)
- S. Mushtaq Ali (Molkar)
- C. S. Nayudu (Molkar)
- C. T. Sarwat (Molkar)
- Gul Mahomed (Baroda)
- V. S. Hazare (Baroda)
- B. B. Nimbalkar (Baroda)
- Abdul Hafeez (Northern India)
- V. Mankad (Gujarat)
- S. N. Banerjee (Bihar)
- S. G. Shinde (Maharashtra)
- S. W. Solanki (Maharashtra).

The Selection Committee for the Test matches in England will be the Nawab of Pataudi, V. M. Merchant and L. Amarnath.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

A team of 14 Indian scientists is expected to attend the Empire Scientific Conference to be held in London next summer. The conference is being sponsored by the Royal Society to discuss the setting up of an organisation to co-ordinate scientific research in the British Commonwealth.

The Government of India have accepted the Royal Society's invitation and have selected seven officials and seven non-officials to represent India. The members of the Indian team have been chosen so as to cover every branch of scientific research ranging from nuclear physics to zoology. The members are: Sr C V Raman, Sr J C Ghosh, Dr Meghnad Saha, Prof Birbal Sahni, Dr M R Siddiqui, Dr Jamshed Bhabha, Prof Mahlanobis Khan Bahadur Afzal Hoosain, Sir S S Bhatnagar, Col Sokley, Dr D N Wadia, Dr S L Mora, Dr Krishnan and Dr J N Mukherji.

The two month programme suggested by the Royal Society will include visits to centres of scientific research in England such as Oxford and Cambridge.

SCIENTISTS AND ATOMIC SECRET

Prof A V Hill, member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the British Cabinet during the War, has urged scientists to refuse to co-operate in tasks in which they or their representatives were not allowed reasonable share or partnership in the responsibility of deciding on the purpose, policy or probable result of their work.

He said that science was being treated as a purchasable commodity and scientists as hackroom boys to be kept in their proper place.

Prof J D Bernal, Vice President of the Association of Scientific Workers, stated that scientists could not tolerate the world as it was today and said: 'It is no secret that the slowness of stating atomic energy is the major cause for the continued and dangerously increasing tension in the world today.'

BRITISH FILM TEAM IN INDIA

While our producers are still busy appealing for a united stand against the impending danger of foreign vested interests invading Indian film domain, a British film team has silently arrived in the country for a study tour.

After visiting Bengal and Northern India, the team is now in Bombay and proposes calling at other centres of interests in the country in pursuit of its artistic quest before returning to Britain to analyse the results of its survey.

The team is led by Mr Thorald Dickinson, director of 'Two Cities Films', of which British Film Magnate Arthur Rank is the chairman, and Mr Joyce Cary, novelist and author. The party have chalked out a twelve week study tour to find a formula which will lend itself to a subject of international interest with an Indian background sympathetic to the Indian point of view.

Mr Dickinson said to a press representative that the world today was deeply interested in the people and problems of India. His Mission would be sympathetic to absorb the pattern of the Indian scene and faithfully represent it to the world.

£20,000 FOR FILM RIGHTS

Dr A J Cronin has received £50,000 for the film rights of his new novel 'T Green Years', which has not yet been published in Britain.

A few years ago £10,000 or £12,000 was a high price for the film rights of a book. Miss Margaret Mitchell got £10,000 for the film rights of 'Gone With the Wind'. Its gross takings long ago exceeded £8,000,000.

Miss Daphne Du Maurier received £25,000 for 'Frenchman's Creek'. 'Lo Horizon' brought £30,000 to Mr James Hilton. Miss Edna Ferber was £27,750 for 'Cimarron', and Elizabeth Goudge received £30,000 for 'Green Dolphin Country'.

FREE SALES OF SECOND-HAND CARS

The Government of India have decided to abolish control over the sales and prices of second-hand motor cars, and a notification withdrawing the Used Motor Vehicles Control Order, 1944, has been published. Control was imposed at a time when new cars were almost unobtainable, and essential users were unable to obtain used cars because prices rose to heights out of all proportion to their original value.

Licences have been granted for the import, during 1946, of a large number of new motor cars—about double the average annual pre-war imports from all sources—and it is anticipated that, though the supply of vehicles may start slowly, it will increase satisfactorily during the year. New cars will be distributed first to essential users as before, and maximum prices will be controlled, but the control orders are being amended so as to provide that any new car which is not purchased by an essential user within 45 days from the date on which it is placed in a dealer's show-room will be available for sale to any member of the public, whether he holds a permit or not.

AMERICAN CARS TO BE PRODUCED IN INDIA

It is learnt that the American Chrysler Corporation's agreement with Indian Premier Automobiles Limited outshines a similar agreement before Lord Nuffield's firm of Morris motors and Birla's Hindustan Automobiles.

Birla is restricted to manufacturing one type of automobile—Morris Ten—while the Premier Automobiles will produce all Chrysler models simultaneously produced in the United States.

V. M. Meswani, an official of the Premier Automobiles, revealed this before flying to the United States. He plans a six-month study of Chrysler's factory in Detroit, after which he will return to India for superintending the production plant of the Premier Automobiles.

FIRST POSTWAR AEROPLANE

British aircraft manufacturers are producing the first post-war aeroplane built entirely on civil specifications. It is the Bristol type 170 built in two styles—"Wayfarer" for passengers and "Freighter" for cargo.

Inquiries already received for "Wayfarer" include one from an Indian Prince who wants the machine as personal aircraft and another from an African company which wishes to use one for transport of native labour to gold mines.

The cost per passenger mile will be two pence including 40 pounds luggage in order to compete with surface transport.

The "Freighter" is specially constructed for rapid loading and unloading. Like the "Wayfarer" which can carry up to 40 passengers, it is powered by Bristol Hercules engine and has a range of more than 1,000 miles.

AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY FOR INDIA

The Government of India, it is understood, are inviting a technical mission from the United Kingdom to survey conditions in this country for setting up an aircraft industry. The mission will go into all the technical problems and also the possible expenditure involved.

The Government, it is learnt, are very anxious that an aircraft industry should be established in this country, but it is pointed out that before any definite plans are made, an expert survey is necessary.

DAILY AIR SERVICE FROM BOMBAY

From January 1, 1946, Tata Air Lines is operating daily services from Bombay between Delhi, Karachi and Colombo in each direction.

It is learnt that Tata Air Lines will, in the near future, take over the existing services between Bombay and Calcutta which are now being operated by the R. A. F. as part of the future development of air services in India by Tatas.

PROTECTION FOR MORE INDUSTRIES

The Indian Tariff Board is scheduled to take oral evidence on the applications regarding the claims of the following industries for assistance or protection on the dates given against them at the Office of the Tariff Board, in Bombay —

Calcium Chloride, February 25, 26
Phosphoric and Phosphates, February 28,
March 1, Sodium Thiosulphate, Sodium
Sulphate and Sodium bisulphate anhydrous
March 4, 6; Grinding Wheels, March 12 13
and Antimony March 19 and 20 1946

In addition to the claims from certain industries already referred to the Tariff Board, the Government of India have decided to forward applications received from the following industries, namely —

Glucose, all Abrasives other than Grinding Wheels, Hurricane Lanterns, Cocoa Powder and Chocolate, Aluminium, and Preserved Fruits, to the Board for investigation

Firms or persons interested in any of these industries or in industries dependent on the use of these articles, who desire that their views should be considered by the Tariff Board, should address their representations to the Secretary to the Board, Caltex House, Ballard Estate, Bombay 1

JAPANESE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The international textile group which is now going to Japan to examine the Japanese textile industry is regarded as the first tangible step towards the latter's revival. The group appointed by the U. S. State Department and the Army comprises three United States experts but the Governments of Britain, India and China have accepted the State Department's invitation to nominate observers

SHIPBUILDING DIRECTORATE

Owing to the curtailment of orders for new construction of ships and repair work consequent on the cessation of hostilities, it has been decided to close down the Directorate General of Shipbuilding and Repairs, Bombay, says a Press Note

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURAL STUDIES

A Press Note issued by the Agriculture Department, Government of India, stated :

The Imperial Tobacco Co of India Ltd, has instituted two studentships of the value of £500 each, tenable for two years, to Indian students for studies abroad in agriculture with special reference to tobacco. The Company has left the studentships to the administration of the Indian Central Tobacco Committee constituted by the Government of India

Pending the formal registration of this Committee, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has accepted the Company's generous offer and the Government of India have agreed to assist in placing the students in suitable institutions abroad. Arrangements for the selection of students are now in hand and it is hoped that they will proceed abroad as soon as the necessary facilities have been secured

THE VICEROY ON RURAL PROGRESS

"India depends for her existence on agriculture, and cattle and anything that assists their improvement is of inestimable benefit. Now that the war is happily over, we must do our utmost to secure the economic progress of India, and especially the rural progress of India." So said H. E. the Viceroy, opening the district agriculture and cattle show at Sanand about 15 miles from Ahmedabad on January 8

His Excellency said that rural life should be made healthier, and more attractive by the building of better villages. He added that agriculture must be improved in every way

30,000 WELLS TO BE DUG IN MADRAS

Thirty thousand wells in drought affected districts of Chingleput, North Arcot, and Chittoor of the Madras Presidency will be dug, under the orders of the Provincial Government, who are subsidising this scheme to grow more food to meet the prospect of famine this summer.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY FOR CEYLON WORKERS

Reduced hours of work with increased emoluments are among the many benefits costing the Treasury over Rs. 58 millions that are to be conferred by the Ceylon Government on its employees. Recommendations to this effect made by the Salaries Committee (appointed recently to review salaries and wages of the Public Service) have been accepted by the Board of Ministers.

Chief among the recommendations are the minimum daily wage for a male unskilled worker engaged in engineering and factory work to be increased from 85 cents (or approximately 14 annas) to one rupee and that for a male skilled worker in agricultural and field work to be 96 cents (or 15 annas). Working hours for daily paid employees engaged in engineering and factory work are to be reduced to eight hours a day, and overtime allowance to daily paid employees engaged to this type of work is to be paid for all work in excess of eight hours on any one day. Non-pensionable monthly paid employees in permanent employment are to be made fully pensionable. Rent allowance is to be paid to monthly paid officers irrespective of the fact whether they are new entrants or not. Gratuities to daily paid employees are to be based on 1/12 instead of the present 1/18 of the period of service.

COALMINES WELFARE COMMITTEE'S DECISION

Miners of both sexes in India's coalfields will soon be provided with opportunities for educating themselves under a scheme sanctioned by the Coal Mines Welfare Fund Advisory Committee. The Committee has decided to spend Rs 3 lakhs for the scheme in the first year and not less than Rs. 3 lakhs for the next five years.

BONUS FOR MILL WORKERS

Agreement has been reached between the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and the Labour Association to pay 20 per cent of the total earning of the workers for 1945 as bonus.

TWO MILLION NEW HOUSES FOR INDIA

A giant scheme to build two million houses spread in the industrial and rural areas in India in the next ten years has been drawn up by the Government of India and the scheme is at present under examination of the Finance Department.

This will form one of the important items on the post-war reconstruction plan of the Government of India. It is expected Government will create a Department called the National Housing Agency to work out the scheme. A housing expert will be in charge of the newly constituted Department and the Department will have full powers to deal with the housing problem effectively and promptly.

It is learnt, the Labour Department of the Government of India has expressed readiness to supply the entire technical personnel required for the scheme as also the necessary material.

INDIA'S WAR CASUALTIES

India's war casualties reported up to August 14, 1945 were 179,935, according to the Prime Minister Mr. Attlee, in the House of Commons in reply to a question. They were made up of: killed 24,338; missing 11,754; wounded 64,354; prisoners of war including service internees—73,489 (including 20,147 officers and other ranks missing but presumed prisoners of war.)

The total Empire casualties were 1,246,025.

VIVEKANANDA MEMORIAL TABLET

The Government of Bengal have placed a memorial tablet at No. 3, Gourmohan Mukherjee Street, Calcutta, where Swami Vivekananda was born. The following inscription appears on the tablet: "In this house was born on 12th January 1863 Swami Vivekananda, a beloved disciple of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and a saint and philosopher of modern India who consecrated his life to the services of humanity."

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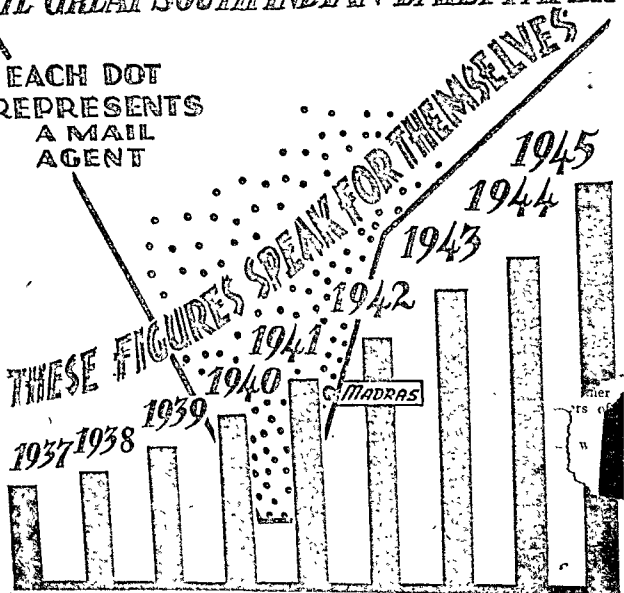
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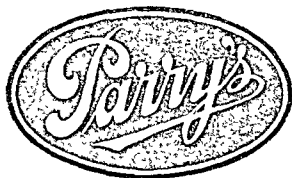
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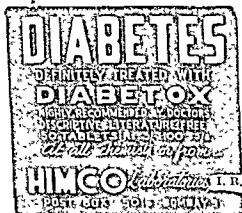
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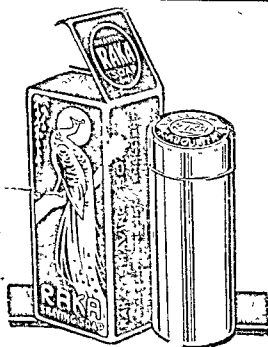
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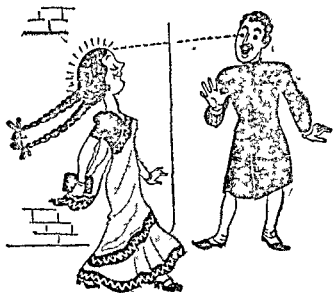


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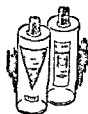
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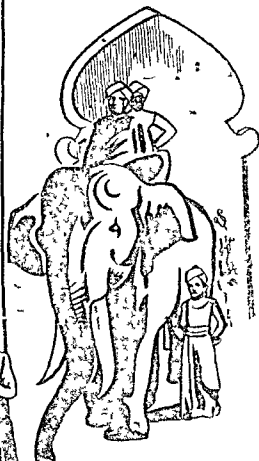
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We fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, sleep to wake' Browning's philosophy is that of Sri Krishna

I am in this paper referring to English authors who have influenced me 'Endeavour After the Christian Life' by the unitarian philosopher and divine, James Martineau is a book to which I revert often for spiritual sustenance Among European writers to whose works in

English translations I owe much are Ibsen (Norwegian) and Lessing (German) Lessing's "Nathan the Wise", indeed, marks a crucial moment in my mental and spiritual growth Until I came across this work in an English translation in Cassell's pocket series of classical authors, I had almost wholly depended on Western sources for intellectual and spiritual nourishment Lessing taught me to look to our own heritage The drama relates to the period of the Crusades Nathan was a wealthy Jew He combined in himself the character of a merchant and philosopher, He was Saladin's close friend Saladin was the soul of chivalry He too was deeply interested in religion One day Saladin asks his friend why he, a man of great intellectual attainments, should stick to an unhistorical religion like Judaism, while Islam was a historical religion which should appeal to him Nathan's answer went home to me It was in effect What is History? It has to be taken on trust, is it not? Why should I think that my forefathers deliberately wrote myths or false history to deceive their posterity Then Nathan tells the story of a father who had three sons A sage had given him a beautiful ring Nathan was unwilling to disappoint any of his sons So he had two other rings made exactly like that ring, and on his death bed gave one to each son After his death, a quarrel arose among them as to which was the true ring That, said Nathan, is the quarrel among religions Saladin is convinced He expresses his pleasure at the way in which Nathan had clarified the eternal squabble among

different religionists. I asked myself, why should I think, as I had been doing that my forefathers had deliberately invented false doctrines on purpose to delude their posterity. It was some years later that I learnt to appreciate the *Gita* injunction about failure in one's own dharma being preferable to success in the other's dharma. Lessing's work truly marked an epoch in understanding of the purpose of my life. After reading it, I have never turned back. I have realised with ever increasing conviction that the road to salvation for every individual and nation lies along the line of its own tradition. Patriotism, rightly understood is a spiritual necessity.

Thus far I have spoken of what I may call the books which have gone to shape my personality, character or whatever is the proper word to describe the process by which my habits of thought and behaviour have been formed. I now proceed rapidly to recount the influences which have helped to direct my opinions, beliefs, ways of approaching problems arising out of my social, economic and political environment. Here I would mention the principal authors rather than their books, because I am a very desultory reader and have, generally speaking, gleaned ideas from their writings without making a systematic study of them. Prominent among such authors are Edmund Burke, John Stuart Mill, Herbert Spencer, John Morley (Compromise particularly), Frederic Harrison (Oliver Cromwell and Essay on George Elliot in Choice of Books), Thomas Huxley (Ethics and Evolution), Leslie Stephen,

Walter Bagehot (Physics and Politics), Sir Henry Maine (Ancient Law and Early History of Institutions), William James and Emerson (among American authors), Bergson (Creative Evolution), Smuts (Holism). This is a sample list which is not yet closed. I am almost daily coming on books (latterly the proportion of them by Indian authors tends to predominate) which suggest, inspire and sharpen insight. Strange to say Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhiji have left me cold. Swami Vivekananda has impressed me more, Mahadev Govind Ranade has much influenced my approach to social and political questions. Ranade's maxim that the reformer does not write on a clean slate has been a permanent factor in my thought, as Edmund Burke's saying that one should touch the wounds of the state (or society) as tenderly as a parent, has been a permanent rule (often I am afraid, disregarded) of my attitude to social and political problems. The net result of all these influences has been to create a disbelief in revolutionary methods and a profound belief in the slow process of education as the sure method of sound and stable progress. These influences have left me an inveterate individualist, that is to say I believe that the best way in which one can serve mankind is to strive earnestly and honestly to fulfil himself, that is to say to live up to the highest in him. If all men do this, there is no need of organised propaganda of any sort. If no one does this, organisation and propaganda are futile. The hope of humanity lies in a steady increase in the number and proportion of people in a community who realise this and endeavour to put it into practice.

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C. F. ANDREWS: A TRIBUTE

BY MR G A NATESAN

C. F. ANDREWS is one of the few Englishmen whose friendship I have been really proud of. When he was with you, you felt you were in the presence of a really superior being. A devout Christian, he was a true servant of God and he ever sought to serve suffering humanity not only in India but in several other parts of the globe. He was really a Dheenabhandhu, champion of the oppressed and the lowly. Suffering and distress in any form affected him deeply. He would not hesitate to rush immediately to places infected by plague, cholera and the like if he could be of any service to those in that area. In him you really found "the cry of duty springing at once from a great soul. The enslavement of one individual by another was to him a moral abomination. Hence his strong condemnation of indentured labour and his successful and indefatigable efforts for the stoppage of the same. The domination of one race over another was a greater abhorrence to him. The granting of independence to India was with him a moral question and many may not be aware that long before Nehru, Gandhi and even the Congress thought of it he advocated independence for India. A genuine soul and a true Christian, he felt deeply the wrongs inflicted by Englishmen on India. His life was truly a dedicated one. In him you saw the true triumph of Christianity and humanity reaching its high water mark.

As I think of dear Charlie, many things come to my recollection. His benignity found expression in his affectionate smile,

his flowing beard and his hearty embracing of his dear friends, of whom I could certainly count myself as one. It was my good fortune to be closely acquainted with him during my stay in London in 1928 for over three weeks. And in later years, I had the honour more than once of having him as my guest in my residence at Madras. When he was staying with me, I never felt I had an English guest. He was really an Indian among Indians. I had many opportunities to know the innate greatness of this man. You found no trace of racialism in him, nothing of the pride and arrogance which you notice unfortunately in some of the members of the ruling race in India. In his case it was all gentleness, love, affection and tenderness to an extraordinary degree.

In 1938, Mr Andrews was staying with me for a few days. It was then that I was laid up with a serious heart attack and my life was despaired of. I well remember his entering my room one morning, sitting by my bedside and telling me "This morning I thought of you in my prayers." In the days of my illness, several pujas and offerings were held, but I confess I felt at that time, and the thought is still present in me, that the prayer offered by Andrews was one of great comfort to me. The fact that he was a Christian never occurred to me. It was a great and kindly soul that prayed. Hence it was that a few years later when Andrews suggested that I should be the publisher for his "Sandhya Meditations" a series of discourses delivered in the Christkula Ashrama at Tiruppattur—I

readily responded to his suggestion; and Andrews was greatly pleased with me, his Hindu friend, for undertaking the publication.

Here are two incidents which I heard in London in 1928. A good friend of mine had purchased for Andrews a fairly costly overcoat. A few weeks afterwards, Andrews turned up at that friend's house on a cold evening without the overcoat. "What is the matter? Have you lost the overcoat?" exclaimed the friend. "No", replied Charlie, "I gave it to a poor fellow last week who was shivering."

One day, an Indian student in London turned up at Andrews's place, and wailing over his lot, desired some pecuniary

assistance from him. Andrews's noble soul was deeply touched and without hesitating to enquire about the antecedents of the visitor, but deeply anxious to help him in some form or other, explained to the young man that at that moment he could not afford to spare him any money, but that he had the manuscript of a book which he wanted to have typewritten, for the cost of which he had some little amount left. The fellow clutched at the opportunity, asserted he knew typewriting, took the manuscript and some money for typing. Poor Andrews! He never saw the man nor the manuscript afterwards. Andrews would not say any harsh word of him; he forgave him altogether.

SOVIET RUSSIA AND GERMANY 1917-33

BY DR. MAHMUD HUSAIN, Ph.D.,

Reader in Modern History, University of Dacca

FRIENDSHIP with Russia was one of the basic principles of Prussian foreign policy during the 18th and 19th centuries. Prussian statesmen, influenced largely by Frederick the Great and Bismarck attached great importance to it. And even when Bismarck concluded an Austro-German Alliance (1879) he saw to it that Russia was not altogether alienated from Germany. This was the meaning of the revival of the Three Emperors' League (1881). After the fall of Bismarck in 1890 a change came in the traditional policy. This led, as Bismarck had feared, to a Franco-Russian understanding and finally to the Triple Entente of Great Britain, France and Russia. The war of

1914-18 which ended in the defeat of the Central Powers confirmed the belief of German politicians that Frederick the Great and Bismarck were right and William II wrong in their attitude towards Russia. But before Germany was finally defeated in the First World War she had inflicted a heavy defeat on Russia in 1917. Russia's losses in the war were enormous, and disease claimed even more victims than the enemy bullet. Her faulty equipment, her defective system of transportation and her economic backwardness were the principal causes of her defeat on the battle field. Military defeats thoroughly disillusioned the Russian soldier. Signs of war-weariness and demoralisation became

meantime had signed a separate peace with the Ukraine, which was practically converted into a German protectorate. The Bolsheviks therefore had to revise their tactics. On the 10th February, 1918 Trotsky announced his famous formula "No war, No peace" which meant that the German terms were unacceptable to Soviet Russia but the state of war had to be brought to an end. This however did not satisfy the Central Powers and under the pressure of Hindenburg and Ludendorff hostilities were resumed. The resistance offered by the Russians was feeble for the soldier did not put his heart in the struggle, and the Bolsheviks had no option but to sue for peace. This time there were to be no negotiations. The treaty was to take the shape of a "Diktat." Conditions were laid down by Germany and these had to be accepted by Russia within three days. Thus on March, 3, 1918 the peace of Brest-Litovsk was signed. Russia had to renounce in favour of the Central Powers all claims over Russian Poland, Courland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. She had also to cede certain territories in the South to Turkey. She had to recognize the independence of Finland, Ukraine and Georgia. She also agreed to pay an indemnity amounting to 6 billion marks. Russia was thus to lose about one-third of her population and arable land. All her best agricultural territories and industrial areas were to go. She was dismembered and weakened. Yet even this treaty, harsh as it was, proved to be blessing in disguise for the Bolsheviks. Lenin sold space and obtained time in

return. He obtained that precious time during which he could set his house in order and make all the necessary preparations for meeting the menace of the Whites. The Revolution had to be consolidated. That was the first task before Lenin. He was severely criticised even by some of his own followers for the territorial losses incurred by Russia. But it is now clear that he had acted wisely. Without the peace which he purchased, Bolshevism would have undoubtedly been destroyed by the Germans and the Whites.

For Germany the peace of Brest-Litovsk did not prove as advantageous as the Germans had perhaps expected. Not only were all the hopes about food and supplies not fulfilled, but a good number of German troops remained locked up in the Ukraine and other newly acquired territories, troops which would have proved so useful on the Western Front. Worse still was the effect of Bolshevik propaganda in Germany. Joffe, the Soviet Ambassador in Berlin encouraged the Extremists among the German Socialists. He fraternised with them. The Spartacists received money from him. In October, 1918 Joffe had to be expelled for these activities. But it was not only the Soviet embassy but many others that were carrying on revolutionary propaganda in Germany; and troops that returned from the Eastern Front brought with them all those doctrines considered so dangerous by the German ruling classes. No doubt this contributed to the outbreak of the German revolution in 1918.

German territorial gains at the expense of Russia proved to be short-lived. When

contributed by taxes on income or direct taxes, and 42 per cent by indirect taxes. But in 1938-39, the pre-war year the proportion of direct and indirect taxes was 22 and 78 per cent respectively. There is no doubt that the ratio of direct to indirect taxation had altered in the war budgets of India during the last five years but this does not necessarily mean that there was a more equitable distribution of the financial burden of war taxation as between the rich and the poor. Though there has been an increase in direct and indirect taxation during the war period the increase in indirect taxation has hit the poor and the middle classes harder than the rich and the increase in direct taxes has not always been sufficiently progressive with a view to secure equitable distribution of the burden as between different sections of the people. In fact the tax income of India more than doubled during the war period and has reached the peak level beyond which further taxation is now out of the question for the financing of post-war development schemes and the only alternative left open for additional revenue lies largely in the nationalisation of certain industries. As the Finance Member observed significantly in the budget for 1945-46, 'I feel that perhaps insufficient attention has hitherto been paid to the question whether it would not be advisable to extend State ownership of industries as a source of additional revenue. It may well be that in the future the State may find it necessary to nationalise certain industries—especially those with larger possibilities of expansion—in order that it may

have at its disposal additional sources of income for the sustenance of national well-being as a whole."

As regards the expenditure side, the year 1938-39, the war year had practically a balanced budget that the war years, particularly 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46 recorded unparalleled deficits of Rs 180.79 crores, Rs 156.77 crores and Rs 163.89 crores respectively. Taking Defence expenditure alone, it was Rs 46.18 crores in 1938-39, and Rs 456.64 crores in 1944-45—almost ten times the pre-war level and the proportion will be further enhanced by the addition of 1945-46 actuals of expenditure. This is not all. The defence expenditure takes no account of the enormous sums of money which continue to be spent in India on behalf of His Majesty's Government with the aid of sterling securities against which paper notes are issued in India. The total defence expenditure including capital expenditure from 1939-40 to 1944-45 comes to over Rs 1,100 crores.

The war budgets of India have been not only budgets of increasing revenue, but of increasing expenditure and increasing deficits, the largest increase being in war expenditure.

So far as the financial aspect of the war is concerned the war budgets of India show that the late war, though much more expensive than the war of 1914 was much better financed. Both taxation and borrowing in India have been fully employed and the proportion of direct to indirect taxation was increased and borrowing has been effected on much lower rates of interest than in the war of 1914.

THE MESSAGE OF C. F. ANDREWS

BY MISS MARJORIE SYKES.

MOST people have very short memories and public remembrance of even the greatest men is apt to grow dim and perfunctory when their living presence is removed. Six years have now passed since Deenabandhu Charlie Andrews went from our midst. The fifth of April is the anniversary of his death; may all men and women of goodwill in India, of whatever race or creed, make this an opportunity of calling to mind his labours and of renewing from his inspired example their faith in peace and reconciliation.

Charlie Andrews was one of Mahatma Gandhi's most intimate friends. Gandhiji has told how at their last meeting, a short time before Andrews' death he turned to him and said: "Mohan Swaraj is coming, both Englishmen and Indians can make it come, if they will." And Gandhiji added: "It is possible for the best Englishmen and the best Indians to meet together and never separate till they have evolved a formula acceptable to both. The legacy left by Andrews is worth the effort."

Now, on this very anniversary, a great opportunity is at our doors. For both countries—England and India—it is the opportunity to meet generosity with generosity and the offer of peace with peace. Andrews, Englishman by birth and Indian by adoption can show us the way. On January 2, 1914, he landed at Durban on his first great mission of reconciliation. He made no compromise with European prejudices and endured rough words and insults from a section of the South

African "whites". Yet before the month was out his winning personality and the convincing reasonableness of his statement of the Indian case had so we are told won over to his side one of the leading "white" newspapers, of Capetown. As another friend wrote of him, he combined the wisdom of the serpent with the innocence of the dove. May that same convincing reasonableness, that same refusal to nurse suspicion and distrust, be our legacy from him to-day.

Even the shortest note on "Charlie" would not be complete without two further words, for they represent matters that sprang from his very soul. The words are "seeker" and "servant." It was not for nothing that Gandhiji described their friendship as "a bond, between two seekers and servants." It was not for nothing that Andrews wrote, over and over again that "the problem of all problems in India is the oppression of the poor." He was the *servant* of the poor. In innumerable instances his was the first voice to be raised against some newly revealed form of oppression his burning words were the means by which the evil was made public and the struggle for righteousness organised. If he could speak to-day, his voice would unite with those of the noblest Indians to remind us that Swaraj is no Swaraj unless the poor are freed from their bondage.

Lastly Gandhiji has truly called him a "seeker." Andrews was one of God's seekers, who knew the meaning of that great mystical saying, "Thou couldst not

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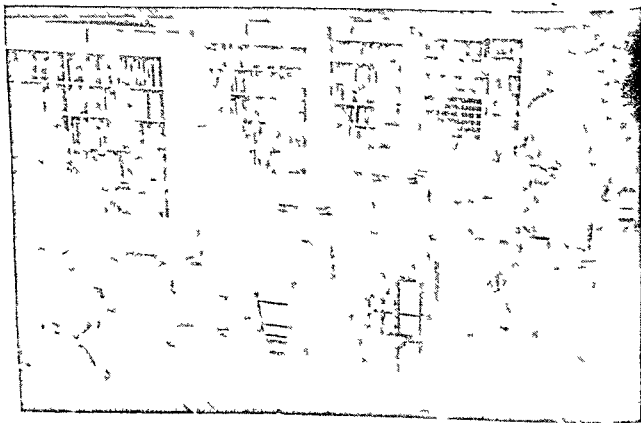
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Lastly Gandhiji has truly called him a "seeker." Andrews was one of God's seekers, who knew the meaning of that great mystical saying, "Thou couldst not

seek Me if thou hadst not already found Me' In that search for the ultimate Truth this 'faithful apostle' of Christ was bound by no narrow sectarian limits but sought eagerly to sanctify his friendships with men of all creeds by entering with them into the high realms of the Spirit. Swami Sraddhananda of the Arya Samaj, Maulvi Zaka Ullah and Hakim Ajmal Khan, to mention only three names shared this deep religious intimacy with

noble Christians like Susil Kumar Rudra. He calls us still to day to be seekers together with him in a spirit of loving respect for traditions of custom and belief that differ from our own, and when we are tempted to drag that which should be sacred into the dust of political barter, he would say to us, in those much misunderstood words of his Master Jesus, 'Give unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's but unto *God* the things which are God's'



COUNTY LIBRARIES IN GREAT BRITAIN

This picture shows the interior of a County Library in Britain with well stocked shelves arranged in sections

SCARE OF THE SUPER-ATOM BOMB

BY MR. N. HARIHARAN B.Sc.

HARDLY had the world recovered from the shock of the first atom bomb when the discovery of the super atom bomb has come as a still bigger surprise. The world had experienced the effect of the atom bomb but once and that was sufficient to inculcate a fear and a hatred for all atomic weapons. With the first atom bomb itself a sense of fear for all scientific devices for destruction of mankind spread throughout the world. With the discovery of the super monster it has been all the more augmented. Philosophers and thinkers like H. G. Wells have begun to feel the emptiness of the world they live in; they hold out little hopes for humanity to survive if another global conflict were to take place. They almost believe in the extinction of humanity in another world war. And so they earnestly cry out to the world's scientists to halt the destructive use of Science and to refrain from carrying out researches on any other atomic weapon or any weapon of that sort.

It is decidedly destructive to human life to have discovered the atom bomb. It definitely points to the track along which Scientific research is being diverted. But should the world be so much scared about this mighty master weapon, and cry out in desperation that humanity has no hopes of survival if another war were to be waged? Definitely not. Constructive and destructive activity are co-existent; they are almost balanced. The inventive genius of mankind has brought all nations to an approximate neighbourhood. If man is using his inventive genius for the destruction of humanity he is also using his inventive genius for peace,

advancement of civilisation and the elevation of his standards of life. If the war has been instrumental in the discovery of the atom bomb it has also been instrumental in the discovery of D. D. T., Penicillin, etc. which are as much helpful for the preservation of human life as the atom bomb is in destroying it.

Scientific inventions are but the fruits of hard and intensive research work and not mere accidents. It is but matter of common consent that for every action there is a reaction—for every act there is something to counteract. The history of inventions is there to prove it. To counteract the menace of aerial attacks was discovered the device of anti-air craft guns and balloon barrages, for the gigantic tiger tank there was the anti-tank mine, for the U boats there were the torpedoes and the depth charges.—for every missile there has been a counter missile. Arguing in this vein it is not beyond the bounds of credulity to say that soon some delicate and dangerous device, would be discovered which would explode the super-atom bomb at the manufacturing plant itself. A few months subsequent to the use of the atom bomb there were reports that scientists had almost perfected devices which would make the atom bomb ineffective by exploding it even while it was in the stratosphere. The credit for the new invention may perhaps go to those German scientists who have gone underground or to the Nippons who are groaning under the Mac Arthur regime.

Even if such a discovery does not come to pass humanity need not be any the worse for it. The very fear of retaliation is sufficient to prevent the use of atomic weapons

in warfare The use of poison gas ended with the first world war More over the atom bomb is no longer the privileged secret of any *Single* nation Taking human nature for what it is with the WILL to exist and a wonderful adaptability to environments we can say with confidence that humanity will safely tide over all such tidal waves trying to wash it off The very fact of its having survived the past 10 000 years while many of the lower forms have become extinct is proof positive to this

The abolition of war from the conduct of human affairs is not only not feasible, it is undesirable also Wars are in fact essential for the progress of mankind Warring spirit is something inherent in human nature 'War serves as a cleansing purifying and spiritualising factor in human society it insures the survival of the fittest and thus is the main vehicle of progress, says Norman Angell The very measures taken with sincerity of purpose and firmness of conviction to avoid war have led to wars The proposed effective control of the atom bomb by a strong International government' is in no way

going to avert war We have had enough of the code of ethics that govern international behaviour Empires have flourished, they have perished, but in their wake new empires have come up A dispassionate study of history brings us the belief that war is a 'herd instinct' with man Even the English and the Scots have been fighting for centuries The various states constituting the United States were once constantly at war The Peace they now maintain—perhaps it may not be an everlasting peace—is the result of their reformed conduct Even the granting of complete Independence to all nations will not bring about an era of perpetual peace and happiness to the world When England and Scotland were independent they were waging war against each other Only the unification of the British Isles temporarily ended these feuds Wars there shall always be and there should always be But humanity will certainly outlast them as it has outlasted them so far And there is no reason to be scared about the super atom bomb or see in it the last way for the extinction of mankind

THE BRITISH MISSION

By Mr C R SRINIVASAN

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DELHI at the moment is a whispering gallery Every word and gesture of the Cabinet Delegation is faithfully recorded and fancifully interpreted Wherever you go, whomsoever you meet, the question anxiously canvassed is whether the Delegation mean business this time An air of suspense overhangs all talk, for there is little yet one

can fasten on Sorting out impressions derived second hand is an unprofitable task in the circumstances But it is clear that the Delegation has not shown its hand yet and is more concerned to receive impressions of the pattern of politics in the country Such talks as have materialised so far are of the unilateral type where the visitor does most

of the talking and gets little in exchange. There is therefore more of wishful thinking and the stories going the round of the City are not to be taken at face-value for there are traces of 'after wit' in many of them.

I had my first glimpse of the Delegation when the Standing Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference threw a party to meet them. The proceedings were off the record and we had a two hours' talk with them, of course all connected with the mission of the Delegation. Of the three members of the Delegation, the one who impressed me most was the Secretary of State. He is well past the psalmist's allotment of three-score years and ten and age has given him a stoop and a nodding head. But it would be a mistake to conclude that he is weak or ineffective. There was strength in his grip as he shook hands; there was mental alertness as he answered questions. He looks like a padre but I would sooner class him as a visionary than a Missionary. He looks you straight in the eye and there is nothing shifty or covert in his look. He struck me as a man with a mind of his own, capable of taking decisions and fighting for his views; and his views, such as they are, on other matters are broadbased on fundamental values. As a politician, of course, he knows the value of compromise, but I do not think he is of the opportunist type, which will compromise on essentials. A settlement can only endure if it is just. What is just can only be arrived at by sorting out ephemeral and enduring values. Pethick-Lawrence struck me as quite competent to do that. He is earliest and keyed with the zeal to succeed. He is conscious he has undertaken a task holding many facets and

multiple problems; and quite frankly, he says he cannot go back with his task unfinished or ill-finished.

CRIPPS--LIVE-WIRE OF THE PARTY

Sir Stafford Cripps, generally voted as the live wire of the party, is not an unfamiliar figure to India. Age has sat lightly on him and the springs of youth still run high in him. His ego has if anything developed a keener edge and there is nothing halting or hesitant in the manner or matter of his talks. Sure of himself and quick at repartee he delighted the ink-slingers when he took a Press conference on Monday, giving away nothing while radiating goodwill. What struck me more than the alertness of his mind was its agility. It turned and twisted as it suggested all things to all men, while the spoken word carried a note of caution not to read too much into what he said. He imports an air of engaging frankness in his private talks and provides a corrective to the impression of a hard-boiled politician that his public talks suggest. He has a reputation to redeem in this country and with the backing of a Government now to be depended on at home. I believe, there is good chance of redemption.

The intriguing figure in the trio is A. V. Alexander. He is a difficult man to place in the context of Indian politics. A short stocky man, with the pimple on the nose, he drew attention to, not so much to be noticed, with a merry twinkle in the eye revealing to the discerning unsuspected depths of humour, he proved himself a man who had a great deal to say for himself when he was drawn out; and as he talked and talked, you recognised the reserve strength in

thirteen wives but none of them was alive when he died. Not many years ago U. Sai, the grand old man of Burma, passed away at the age of 109, leaving his seventh wife, who was 85 years and 36 children and grand children. It is also said that he led a simple life and abstained from liquor. While expert medical opinion says that bachelors die earlier than married people I cannot subscribe to the view that the secret for longevity is found in the multiplicity of wives. I am not prepared to join the slogan,—"Many more women. The greater the number of wives, the longer is your life." And what about longevity for women? What is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose!

Do spare meals and abstinence make for long life. Bernard Shaw who is nearing 90 sticks to this belief: "Eat no meat, drink no stimulants and avoid doctors except as personal friends," is the substance of his advice. Shaw believes that man should live upto 300 years. He himself is in no hurry to quit this world. Mahatma Gandhi's advice is almost identical. He is a very spare eater and has no faith in doctors. He expects to live to the age of 125. Probably his fasts have been rejuvenating him and he has cheated death more than once through his bold experiments. He is also a puzzle for the doctors. I wonder how many serious followers in his dietetic line he can ever command. That brilliant American journalist, Louis Fischer, was his guest at Sevagram for a week. Everyday morning and evening he was served the same vegetable, composed of spinach

mixed with some other leaves, and he got sick of it. When pressed by the Mahatma to have another helping of this vegetable he said, "I have got sick of this preparation morning and evening." When he was twitted with the remark that he did not like vegetables Fischer was provoked into saying, "Well, Mahatmaji, I have great respect for you as a man, as a politician and as a leader but I cannot accept you as an ideal chef."

Onions and garlies are also recommended for longevity. A Mexican woman claimed to have lived to the age of 120 on the strength of onions. Everybody, however, cannot stand the smell of raw garlic and onions. When I suggested to a friend to start taking raw onions for longevity he remarked, "you may live long but it will be a very solitary existence." Mussolini was a great believer in the virtues of garlic and he consumed a large quantity of it everyday. Which reminds me of an incident. When Marshal Badoglio, the hero of Abyssinia, reached his native village he was surrounded by his friends and family. It was the happiest moment of his life but Badoglio appeared sick. "What was the matter?" anxiously inquired people. "Did those African barbarians use poison gas against you, Marshal Bodaglio?" "No", said the Marshal, "When I arrived in Rome, the Duke received me at the station and kissed me. You know he eats garlic and he had probably taken an overdose of it that morning."

The American multi-millionaire, J. D. Rockefeller, died at the age of 97 and had not a single false tooth. He hated

tea and coffee but drank plenty of orange juice before and with meals. Among other things he was very cool headed. He always rested for sometime in the day and never lost his nerves. I think his good temper had much to do with his long life. This fine temper is also the asset of Gandhi and Shaw and I believe no man can live long who burns himself with worry or anger. Care killed a cat. Dr Alexander Guinot who died at the age of 103 gave a few prescriptions in his book 'How to live to be a Hundred years old'. Says he, 'Do not eat too much, but eat what you think is good for you. I eat eggs and butter with every meal and a little meat, vegetable and wine. Most of us eat too much. A youngman who dies at 85 dies young. The normal age for man is between 100 and 110.'

As against these let me introduce to you a few multi-meal champions. Mrs Andrew Cross, the author of *Red Letter Days* refers to her nurse—a centenarian—who, as she declared, had eaten all her life 'A dewbit and breakfast, a staybit dinner, a moment and crumnet and a bit after supper,' altogether *eight* meals a day. Mr Arthur Davenport of Loremba, New South Wales who is approaching a century attributes his good health to always having eaten six meals a day. The late Lloyd George was a hearty eater. Once, when he was in his seventies, he offered an American journalist who went to interview him a cigar and then a drink but the newspaperman thankfully declined. "No vices," inquired L.G. "No visible ones," returned the journalist. "I have all the vices, visible and invisible ones,

and you see how fit I am keeping,' was the rejoinder of the veteran English politician. I know some of the world celebrities are epicures and defy most of the accepted canons of longevity without any detriment to their health. This reminds me of Winston Churchill's talk with Field Marshal Montgomery in North Africa when the British Premier greeted his military General with the remark, "Montgomery, how do you manage to keep fit?" The Field Marshal said, "Sir, I rise early, I take regular exercise, I do not smoke, I do not drink and I keep hundred per cent fit." Pat came the reply from Churchill's lips, "I am a late riser, I take no exercise, I smoke and drink regularly and I keep two hundred per cent fit." And Winston was telling no lies. He is an inveterate smoker and drinker and has an amazing capacity for hard work at his age.

In some countries women are longer lived than men. Of the 110 centenarians who died in 1933 in Great Britain only 19 were men. Some years ago there were 124 centenarians in the Nazi Republic, of whom 81 were women. Only one woman remained a spinster, all others were mothers of large families, the average number of children being six. The Germans claim that the true prescription for long life is marriage and *hard work*. And yet a careful compiler quotes figures to show that lazy habits are generally associated with long life. In the village of Bradford Abbas, in Dorsetshire, England, we find a wonderful collection of old. Five of the villagers are over 90, 12 over 80, 20 are over 70 and so on.

is reported to be one of the laziest little villages in Great Britain. No train stops there and a motor bus goes there only once a week.

Look at a few queer cases. Mr. William Green of Harborough, Leicestershire, attributed his long life to a diet of live frogs! "I swallow them alive," says he; "and I know that while I continue to eat them I shall have no disease. All this talk about living a simple life and going to bed early in order to reach old age is rubbish." Ahmed Beg, a whitebearded Turk centenarian, was a firm believer in the usefulness of cold water as an end to longevity. "Water is the thing," he says. "Whenever I went out for a walk I used to make a practice of drinking water from springs. I

have never been really ill, but I twice had colds in the head. How did I get over them? By drinking lots of cold water, of course."

So here is a long list of prescriptions—to suit all tastes and all pockets, as they say. Make your choice, dear reader, and I wish you may live to the age of Methuselah. Speaking for myself, I am not so much in love with my life as to prolong my existence by imposing all varieties of restraints over my diet and habits. I hate dietetic inhibitions.

For forms of diet let fools contest

Whatever is best cooked is best.

There is no fun in living with so many "Don'ts" confronting your eyes on the dining-table. "I shall die young but I shall have had a hell of a time."

Paddy Husking as a Cottage Industry

BY PROF. R. V. RAO, M.A., B.T.

RICE is the most important grain crop of the world and is extensively grown in all tropical and subtropical countries. Its requirement is a sufficient supply of water. Paddy is extensively grown in Madras, Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and some parts of Central Provinces, and is the staple food of millions in this country. Paddy-husking is, therefore, an industry which is directly connected with the processing of paddy and making it fit for consumption.

In examining the potentialities of this industry, we should see that the process does not injure the product from the standpoint of nutrition. Another important consideration is whether it distributes wealth while it also produces it. Thirdly,

the equipment necessary should be within the means of the people who take up this industry.

There is a feeling that cottage industries carried on in the decentralised manner with the aid of man and animal power cannot compete with centralized large scale industries. To view it from the standpoint of national economy, we have to examine each industry separately and judge its efficient working in relation to the well-being of society, and not in terms of profits that we are likely to make. In any scheme of rational planning, our duty should be to see that the labour and animal force in the country are employed.

To get the best out of rice, only the outer cover of the paddy namely the husk,

must be removed. The bran, the germ, etc., are then available for human consumption. Our duty should be to see that the finished product does not lose its nutritive value. Home pounding, with the aid of a chakli or pestle and mortar or dhenkis, till recently, was a whole time and spare time occupation.

Rice mills have now become the order of the day. The process of polishing removes the germ and the bran which contains minerals, proteins, vitamin B, etc. We have therefore to depend upon this starch if we are to take milled rice. It is better people take unpolished rice. Rice obtained by merely removing the outer husk of paddy is called unpolished rice. If we begin to polish it, it loses its brown or reddish colouring and becomes white. Many of us forget that by polishing we are removing the outer covering of the grain which contains most of the mineral salts and vitamin value of rice.

The loss due to polishing rice is indeed very great. Indeed rice is deprived of its thin brown outer cover and of the embryo part of the grain. They constitute $\frac{1}{10}$ of the whole grain and contain more than half its mineral matter, a 4th of its proteins and practically the whole of its vitamins and fats. The loss through polishing is given below.

	Value	Loss
Unpolished rice	100.0	Nil
Once polished	4.0	7.0
Twice polished	2.0	7.0
Three polished (as usually seen in the bazar)	1.0	82.0

Thus it is clearly seen that not only is polishing wasteful but also harmful since there would be lack of minerals and

vitamins in polished rice by taking which we are actually starved of our essential needs.

By polishing rice we are also losing minerals which are so essential for the human body. The loss of minerals by polishing rice is given below.

	Hand pounded	Machins polished	Loss Percent
Phosphorous content	0.28	0.13	54
Calcium content (Bengal varieties)	0.043	0.013	70
Iron content	2.2	1.0	55

It is well known that phosphorous is necessary for all the living issues and therefore an important constituent of blood. Calcium is a vital necessity for the growth and well being of the bones and teeth. It is only by this that we can use other constituents of food such as fats and iron. Iron is required for blood formation and for the blood to remain in a healthy condition. It is therefore axiomatic that we should not deprive our bodies of these minerals which we require. In other words, it is necessary that we use only handpounded unpolished rice.

Nutrition specialists tell us that through polishing rice we lose vitamin B₁ which is badly necessary for the human body. It is also asserted that absence of this vitamin causes Beriberi, a disease which attacks the nerves and heart and ultimately leads to heart failure. Thus, it is desirable we use only handpounded, unpolished rice.

To the few who still cling to their old ways of living and say that they cannot adjust themselves to handpounded rice one can only say that appearances are deceptive. White milled rice may be alluring but it has

no nutritive value. In fact it has been sarcastically put by one "only a fool will eat the husk and throw away the grain". But that is what one does when one eats milled rice. The elements of value in rice are in the germ and the outer covering both of which are absent in milled rice. Poor people have to look upon this for nutritive purposes and it is no wonder that the cause of Beriberi is deficiency in the nutritive value of polished rice and a cause of constipation is the absence of bran. When the bran and the germ are removed, almost all valuable material has been taken away from the rice leaving only the starch. The protein, fat, salts and vitamins contained in the rice are essential and the lack of them brings about all kinds of disorders and even premature deaths.

In fact, these rice mills also add to the problem of unemployment and the following table gives an idea of the state of affairs.

Place	Method	Amount of paddy Treated in maunds	No. of persons employed	Persons that can be employed if rice is pounded at home
Bihar (Gujarat)	Home Pounding	3½	5	5
Bardoli (Gujarat)	Rice Mill	165	5	150
Guntur	"	360	40	515

It will thus be clear that apart from the point of nutrition, as the size of the mill increases its capacity to displace human labour also increases.

One can understand centralization to ensure efficiency. If some of the key industries are to be run efficiently, we have, of course, to seek the aid of machinery and centralized methods of production. Our guiding principle should be that they are carried on in the interests of the nation and not a few individuals. In the latter case, it does not increase national wealth or per capita income computed in terms of human welfare. In

the case of rice mills, we have an example of centralisation not for efficiency but for private profit. Here not only are people robbed of their spare-time occupation but the nation's staple food is being spoiled.

Far from distributing wealth, rice mills help the concentration of wealth. There are some industries which may be carried on on a large scale. But each industry should be taken on its own merits.

Suppose paddy-husking is carried on as a cottage industry. We can employ local made paddy-husking chakkis, local labour and cater to local needs. The process involved is simple that even if we get paddy dehusked in factories, the margin of saving in production is less, if not negligible. An essentially decentralised village industry like paddy-husking should, therefore, be supported in preference to factories. Rice mills can also be said to be anti-social from the point of view of diet. One cannot, of course, deny that implements for village industries like paddy-husking can be improved.

In spite of all that may be said against paddy-husking as a cottage industry, the following table gives us an idea of how hand-pounding has come to stay :

Province	Percentage of population using handpounded rice (1938)
Bihar	.. 90
Assam	.. 85
U. P.	.. 85
Bengal	.. 70
Hyderabad	.. 70
Travancore	.. 45
Madras	.. 30
Burma	.. 20

It will be seen from the above table, that machine-milling of rice has made the greatest headway in Madras which is primarily a rice-eating province. This province used to grow commercial crops and import rice to make up the deficiency. With the exigencies created by the war even the Government is advocating the use of hand-pounded rice by which method it is estimated that we can increase 10 per cent, of the existing output. It is in the Madras province that we have the highest incidence of beri-beri which can, no doubt, be traced to the use of milled rice.

THE RT. HON. SASTRI

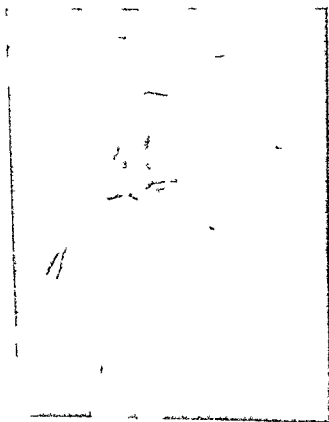
By Mr B NATLSON

THOUGH the Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri had been in failing health for months past the end which came peacefully on Wednesday the 17th at 10.30 AM was rather sudden and unexpected. Early this year Sastri was admitted into the General Hospital for rest and for treatment of heart trouble and he seemed to be rallying. But progress was slow. Though weak and ailing, his habitual zest for life and his

sudden attack and all was over in a few minutes. The end was so peaceful that

We thought he was lying with his eyes closed and his hands folded

Much has been said and written of Sastri's great attainments and high character. It is not our purpose here to chronicle his career or assess his achievements in different spheres



keen interest in affairs continued unabated. Mahatma Gandhi who saw him more than once in his convalescence must have been struck by Sastri's vivid interest in things in spite of growing infirmity. At home and in the midst of those dearest and nearest nursed by tender and affectionate hands his health showed marks of definite recovery. But the recovery was really deceptive. On the night of the 17th he had a

of public work. Sastri had been in public life for over 40 years and his record of service is by no means negligible. Nor is there any need to expatiate on his scholarship, his eloquence or statesmanship. These must be left to other hands. Other

For the moment we are oppressed by a sense of personal bereavement. For the

Editor of this *Review*, the passing of Mr Sastri means the abrupt termination of a friendship of fifty years. For five decades, almost without interruption, Mr Sastri honoured the Editor of this *Review* with tokens of his regard and affection which time cannot efface. Readers of the *Review* are aware of the part played by Mr Sastri in launching this Journal and of his continued support and guidance in shaping its fortunes. Mr Sastri's interest continued to the very end, for almost his last effort in writing was to shape his broadcast on Books for the new year number of the *Indian Review*. The idea was so catching, and Mr Sastri's lead so inspiring that a number of other writers joined in the symposium with alacrity. Nor need we remind our readers of the many occasions when his pen was always ready to enliven them. In recent years Mr Sastri had taken to the study of Sanskrit classics with an enthusiasm which many younger men might envy. His exposition of the *Ramayana* at the Sanskrit Academy, was a positive contribution to the study and interpretation of that great classic. The head of the publishing house of Natesan's is eternally grateful to Mr Sastri for his sustained interest in his New series of Sanskrit Classics which, by its wide popular appeal has brought comfort to thousands of readers in India and abroad.

Sastri was first and last a great gentleman and scholar. He attracted many admirers not less by his learning and eloquence than by his unfailing urbanity and sweetness

of temper. But the friends of his youth still remained the best friends of his age. Mr T R Venkatarama Sastri, whom he had come to know as a pupil, stuck to him with the devotion of a true *Sishya*. It is not uncommon to hear the city people as they pass the Marina whispering to each other that the grey haired trio—meaning the Rt Hon Sastri, Mr Venkatarama Sastri and Mr G A Natesan—would hold together at all times and everywhere. Where the Rt Hon was there were sure to be the other two—sometimes taking counsel, sometimes tea and till the other day one was sure to see them chatting at the sea side and relishing their serious talk with no less gusto than their small beer. For Sastri, for all his 'fine poise, dignity and earnestness' could yet bend and join in the gaiety of his friends, young as well as old. There was one thing which distinguished Sastri from many others. His public life of over 40 years was not all 'Roses' roses all the way. He has had his moments of disappointment, failure and frustration of unmerited reproach and uncharitable accusations—but he was utterly free from bitterness. How few of us could be so magnanimous? In spite of the great difference in temperament and outlook, and the sharp contrast between his Victorian Liberalism and the new non violent technique it was this inherent magnanimity of these two great men—Gandhi and Sastri—that made their friendship so beautiful and enduring!

THE CABINET MISSION IN INDIA

LORD PETHICKLAWRENCE, Secretary of State for India. Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade and Mr A V Alexander First Lord of the Admiralty, members of the British Cabinet Mission to India, arrived at Karachi on March 23. In his first statement on setting foot on the soil of India, the Secretary of State expressed Britain's

determination to fulfil pledges and arrange for a speedy transfer of power.

We have come but with one purpose in view. It is in conjunction with Lord Wavell to discuss with the leaders of India and her elected representatives a way best to speed the fulfilment of our aspirations to take full control of your own affairs and to enable us to complete the transfer of responsibility with pride and honour to ourselves. The British Government and the British people desire without reservation to consummate the promises and pledges that have been made and we

can assure you that, in our negotiations we shall not seek to provide for anything that is incompatible in any way with the sovereign dignity of India

The Mission left for Delhi immediately for consultations with party leaders and government officials and other important personages, who had been specially invited to meet them in succession. At the first Press conference in New Delhi on Monday, March 25th Lord Lawrence declared

The issue of freedom and self-determination is, therefore, settled in principle. We have now to work out in co-operation the means by which Indians can themselves decide the form of their new institutions with the minimum of disturbance and the maximum of speed

The Secretary of State reiterated that the Mission had come with open minds and were not committed to any particular views

We have come with only one fixed intention, and that is to play our full part as representing His Majesty's Government in helping Indians to achieve their independence

This definite and unequivocal statement of Lord Lawrence allayed suspicions of the Mission's intentions and paved the way for reciprocal goodwill and understanding

The Mission were, as might be expected, subjected to a barrage of questions and the Secretary of State endorsed the Prime Minister's assurance regarding the minorities and their position in any arrangement

We are mindful of the rights of the minorities and minorities should be able to live free from fear. On the other hand, we cannot allow a minority to place their veto on the advance of the majority

And he went on to add

Our aim is to secure an agreed method of deciding on a new constitutional structure and the setting up of a more representative transitional Government at the Centre

In making these declarations Lord Lawrence, of course, spoke for the whole Mission and indeed for the British Government and he refused to contemplate failure

Guided by Sir Stafford's previous experience, the Mission made sure of Gandhiji's presence at the head quarters during the whole period of consultations. Gandhiji, impressed by the *bona fide* character of the Mission's intentions agreed to stay at Delhi in order to be available for consultations at every stage. Mr Jinnah, President of

the Muslim League was likewise persuaded to be at hand for consultations. Thereafter the Mission began a series of talks individually with a number of invitees, representing different parties, communities and interests. The heads of Provincial governments, members of the Viceroy's Council, spokesmen of ruling Princes, and leading men like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Dr Jayakar were invited for consultations. Needless to say League Muslims and Nationalist Muslims, Mahasabhis, Sikhs, Labour and the scheduled class leaders—all have been consulted. Maulana Azad, the Congress President Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru have had more than one interview with the Mission, while Sir Stafford Cripps, the Viceroy and Secretary of State have had several consultations with Gandhiji on topics directly or indirectly bearing on the fortunes of the Mission's task in India

The Congress Working Committee and the League Convention have met and declared their views, definitely and unequivocally—the one for a single constitution and the other for Pakistan. In all this jumble of conflicting and contradictory counsels it is refreshing to note the views of the three important minorities—the Parsees, Indian Christians and Anglo Indians who have definitely aligned themselves to the cause of progressive nationalism. While Mr. Jinnah swears by the two nation theory, Mr Gandhiji and the Congress are definite that the two nation theory is "absurd" and the division of India is a "Sin"

Thus the Mission are at present in the midst of a most difficult phase of the negotiations. And on the eve of their departure to Kashmir for a short recess they plead for mutual goodwill

The mission are confident that at this great moment in the history of India it will be possible with mutual goodwill to reach that decision which the people of India so anxiously await and which will be welcomed throughout the world

But the question still remains, what are they going to do, if one of the parties is intransigent and will come to no terms?

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

India and South Africa

It is a pity that a statesman of the stature of Field Marshal Smuts should use arguments that can not stand a minute's scrutiny. Moving the second reading of the Anti Indian Bill in the Union Assembly Gen Smuts sought to deny that the Bill is an insult to India or a challenge to Asia. He naively tells the world that it will settle the issue and 'establish an order in South Africa in which the various communities in our society can live peacefully and quietly together.' That is to say, once the Indians and Africans are made to realise their lot as a subject people the whites can right away settle down to rule and dominate the land. He brushes aside the suggestion of a Round Table Conference on the absurd plea that it would take time, and that anyway it is a domestic problem for South Africa and that Indians must make up their minds as to whether they are citizens of South Africa or India.

But these are specious arguments which will not wash. The real reason is not far to seek and the South African whites are not blind to it. As the *Cape Times* frankly admits

We doubt if future generations of South Africans will look back with satisfaction on the measure which is so much an expression of this country's intense colour prejudice, the expression of its Herrenvolk attitude of mind.

As we go to press the anti Indian Bill has passed the third reading. The Union Government have treated our protest with scant courtesy and gone ahead with their legislation. The Government of India must, therefore, implement their promise to raise the whole issue before the United Nations. It is not likely that that will bring any immediate change in the situation but it will at least expose the pretensions of those who are always prating about the fine example in democracy that the British Commonwealth is setting to the rest of the world.

Mr Jinnah's Heroics

In a series of press statements Mr Jinnah has exhausted his vocabulary of vituperation. Evidently his chagrin is venting itself in unbridled abuse of all and sundry. In what one may call his last ditch stand he calls the Congress President a 'quising' and accuses Gandhiji, of all people, of 'hypocrisy'. Both have kept a dignified silence leaving the Quade Azam to stew in his own juice.

He has threatened the country with dire consequences if the British would not take his advice to divide India. He talks of 'civil war and bloodshed'—all of which have been amusing to a degree. But his latest statement to a representative of the *News Chronicle*, "I do not regard myself as an Indian" is a hard nut to crack. Is it yet another of his sensational stunts to draw attention to himself? Anyway this outrageous statement has evoked the very pertinent remark from Sardar Patel. If he is not an Indian what business has he to meddle with the Indian constitution?

A New Madras Weekly

Khasa Subba Raus *Swatantra* is a welcome addition to our periodicals in English. We have read with interest and appreciation half a dozen successive issues of this brilliant weekly. Subba Rau is an experienced Editor with decided views and opinions of his own and it is good for him and for the public that he should be free to express himself without fear or favour. We could see he is not committed to any particular party and as such his comments on current affairs are refreshingly independent. It is not to be supposed that his views—vigorously expressed—will be agreeable to all, but the main purpose of an intellectual weekly of this kind is to provoke thought and stimulate discussion—and these it does in abundant measure.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By 'CHRONICLER'

League of Nations Closed

PRESIDENT of the League of Nations Assembly Dr Carl Hambro rapped the table with his gavel at its last meeting at Geneva on April 16 and stated, 'I declare this meeting of the 21st and last Assembly of the League of Nations as closed —and thus ended 26 years of the world's first endeavour to establish peace by collective security

Before closure Dr Lone Liang, Leader of the Chinese Delegation declared that the League's failure over Manchuria was a fatal blow to the League's life as an international institution

India's Contribution to UNRRA

The Leader of the House Sir A. Ramswami Mudaliar, suggested in the Central Assembly on April 18 that the House agree to two crores of rupees being voted as additional grant to the UNRRA instead of the proposed four crores of rupees. He added that the Government on its part would agree not to expend this amount until the end of September when the internal situation in the country would be better known

The Congress, the Muslim League and the European groups agreeing to this suggestion the House passed the Finance Members supplementary demand for this sum unanimously

The Franco Regime in Spain

The United Nations Security Council discussed the Polish demand for breaking off diplomatic relations with Franco, Spain at its meeting at New York on April 18

Sir Alexander Cadogan, Britain's permanent representative on the Council, said—'The Polish appeal will find a sympathetic echo in my country which had the honour of being the first to declare war on Hitler in support of Poland

Sir Alexander added however, that he did not find the evidence of the Polish delegate sufficiently convincing to justify the claim that the Franco regime might lead to international friction

Dutch—Indonesian Talks

A warning against being too optimistic about the present Dutch-Indonesian discussions was given by Dr I. R. Soekarno, President of the Indonesian Republic, in an address at Batavia on April 18

Dr Soekarno said there are two groups of Dutch men progressives who are trying to find a peaceful solution of the Indonesian question and extremists—reactionaries, militarists and capitalists—who will do everything to have Java occupied by their army. The latter group although the smallest was the most influential and prominent and therefore, the position of Dr van Mook (Lieutenant Governor General of the Netherlands East Indies who is the Dutch representative at the discussions) was unenviable, he went on, adding that there were indications that the importance of Dr van Mook's position was dwindling

Indonesians are fighting on two fronts— inwardly to awaken the people and outwardly against the Dutch extremists, Dr Soekarno added

New Constitution of Japan

Baron Kijuro Shidehara, the Japanese Prime Minister on April 17 made public the official text of Japan's proposed new Constitution

This had been drawn up in the plainest colloquial language on the express instructions of Emperor Hirohito so that it shall be perfectly understandable to the masses

The new Constitution provides for retention of the Emperor as 'a symbol of the State and of the unity of the people'. His acts in matters of State require approval of the Cabinet. As a means of settling disputes with other nations maintenance of armed forces is not authorised

All persons are equal under the law, and fundamental human rights of all are conferred by the Constitution, freedom of thought and religion being guaranteed. All members of the two houses of the Diet are selected by the people



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

NEW YORK WITH ITS PANTS DOWN By
D F Karaka, Thackers Bombay

D F Karaka is no newcomer to the literary field. He has a long list of books to his credit. His easy racy style makes his books light and readable. He has a flair for satire which sometimes borders on the cheap side. 'New York with its Pants down' is one such—a sparkling satire on that city which La Guardia who was its Mayor for ten years described as the Real capital of the country from which flow the cultural and economic currents unique there is nothing like it anywhere else on the face of the earth the most hospitable city.

Almost every aspect of American life is satirised here—the administration, the press, the big business the high society lecturers and poets and a vast number of other diverse things, typically American. Yet the satire has a very hard kernel of truth behind it and all the time though the author may give the impression of being light and flippant, has his teeth hard on this inner core.

SILK INDUSTRY E V S Manian Bureau
of Economic Research Cawnpore U P

The Indian Sericulture Industry has not been given the encouragement it deserved particularly in the prewar period. It is most suited to our rural parts and it can be woven into the rural agricultural economy of the villager to his own economic betterment. The book contains much useful information about the history, growth and future prospects of the industry.

INDIA'S POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND
ITS INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS By P S
Lokanathan (Oxford University Press)

Dr Lokanathan who is a noted economist gives a comprehensive treatise on the Reconstruction problem of India. After dealing with the position on the eve of the war its impact and repercussions, problems of transition and reconstruction, he says that the rapid industrialisation, contemplated under the Bombay Plan will, if put through raise problems of great magnitude both within the country and outside but not impracticable and insoluble. India's economic development depends for its success not only on her own internal educational and training facilities but upon facilities provided abroad particularly in America for industrial and technical training of Indians. A fruitful era of co operation is possible if the Western nations recognize their own responsibilities and opportunities and the world will stand to gain by a prosperous India.

COMMUNAL PROBLEMS By a Nationalist,
Punjab Gramseva Mandal Book Depot
Lajpat Rai Bhavan Lahore

The Communal question is reviewed from all points of view. The author avers that the religious, political and social differences could be patched up with the rise in the economic and cultural standard of the masses of the Muslims. The appendix contains valuable statements made by Messrs Jinnah Rajgopalachari and 'Ishatmaji' on the Pakistan issue.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

— 0 —

- March 1 Arab League supports Egypt's demands
—Mr Amery advocates transfer of power to India
- March 2 Franco denounces foreign attempt to upset Spanish regime
- March 3 Indonesian Cabinet crisis Dr Jhasir resigns and resumes office
—Capt Lal shmi released
- March 4 Viceroy opens Victory week celebrations in Delhi
—Train collision near Lucknow
- March 5 Congress Unionists and Akalis agree to form Coalition Party in the Punjab
- March 6 Khizr Hyat Khan to form the Punjab Cabinet
- March 7 Disturbances in Delhi Police open fire 11 reported killed
—Dr Khan Saheb submits names for his new Cabinet in Frontier Province
- March 8 U S demands withdrawal of Soviet forces from Persia
- March 9 Pandit Nehru addresses Calcutta Convocation
—Sir C P Ramaswami Iyer presides over the first Brahmin Conference at Salem
- March 10 Aga Khan Jubilee celebration His Highness weighed in diamonds
- March 11 Punjab Ministry announced
- March 12 Aga Khan leads South African deputation to the Viceroy
—Congress Working Committee meets in Delhi
- March 13 Stalin compares Churchill to Hitler
—Soviet troops moving towards Teheran
- March 14 Congress wins all general seats in Bihar
—Congress declines to join Viceroy's Food Council
- March 15 Mr Attlee on Labour's India policy
—Prof Laski's appeal to Indian and British leaders
- March 16 Congress wins absolute majority in U P
—Mob violence in Hyderabad
- March 17 Pandit Nehru leaves for Malaya, visit sponsored by Viceroy
- March 18 Cochin ruler installed on the *gadi* at Mattancherry palace
—Madras Assembly elections
- March 19 British Cabinet mission leaves for India
—Persia protests to Security Council against presence of Soviet troops
- March 20 Good talks in America
—Congress victory in Bombay
- March 21 U S opposes Soviet move for postponing Security Council meeting
—Personnel of newspaper delegation to Britain and Canada and U S A announced
- March 22 British ultimatum to Indonesian extremists
- March 23 British Cabinet mission arrives in India
- March 24 Russia to evacuate troops from Persia
- March 25 Hidayatullah Ministry in Sind defeated a Leaguer voting with the opposition
—Anti Indian Bills pass second reading in the Union Parliament
- March 26 Sind Cabinet enlarged Bunde Ali Khan to be fifth member
—Cabinet Mission meets Viceroy's Council
- March 27 Half anna post card restored
—Soviet walk out in Security Council
- March 28 Finance Bill passed by 63 votes to 57 Muslim League party voting with the Government.
- March 29 Lords discuss Labour's policy in India
- March 30 Indian Food delegation party returns
—Finance Bill passed in Council of State
- March 31 Congress Ministry formed in U P Pandit Pant submits names



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



UNION OF INDIAN PROVINCES

A twelve-point programme for India is outlined in the current issue of the *Round Table*. The programme is based on the current fashionable concept of "provincial sovereignty" and is recommended on the ground that it goes far enough to meet the Muslim League demand without parting company with Hindu sentiment.

Urging that the Cabinet Mission should start by issuing a manifesto embodying the programme the *Round Table* gives a gist of the twelve points in the following order

Sovereign rights of self government in India reside in the people of India

In British India these rights have been and are exercised by the peoples assembled and organised in the Provinces

The first stage in the process of completion of self government, therefore, is recognition of the sovereign rights of the Provinces

These rights include self determination

Nevertheless there are strong reasons which make it imperative as a second stage in the completion of self government that the sovereign Provinces should freely combine in an Indian nation for common purposes.

The compact of Union should not permit any community to command a permanent majority in its councils and should provide for the right of secession for a province when practical arrangements to this end can be worked out

For the present, the first two stages must proceed side by side

Expression of sovereign rights in the form of a new constitution will be for each Province to make through its own legislature but to save time, the present Provincial constitutions can be adapted with provision for later change

The compact of Union shall be framed by a Council representing the Provinces.

The third and fourth stages of completion of self government will be the enactment of constitutional laws required by the first two and admission of Indian States into the structure of self government

A time table for the achievement of all the four stages within two years should be framed and the British Government should not allow lagging behind by any particular section to delay the completion of the process

Meanwhile a new representative British Indian Government is to be formed by the Governor General and political leaders and groups willing to co operate with him in working the existing constitution. Such a Government will exercise the fullest autonomy in both external and domestic affairs subject only to the need for His Majesty's Government to fulfil, during the interim period, past pledges. Thus both at the Centre and in the Provinces full self government can begin immediately as a practical measure

The *Round Table* suggests that the Mission should make a pronouncement on these lines at the outset of discussions. The initiative, it is argued, will not come from Indians themselves and so the British should put forward a practical scheme and thus steer India away from self destruction. The proposed plan goes beyond the Cripps Offer in starting from Provincial autonomy and working towards the Centre.

In any case the effort to form a federation by partial breaking down of the unitary Government had lost the chance in 1935 and cannot now succeed

The mirage of Pakistan cannot be adopted by the British Government as a practical policy, says the *Round Table*. It would precipitate civil war and rebellion

even if the British Power is ready to face the prospect as soon as Pakistan is translated from an ideal into practical shape, its impossibility will become manifest. It is a hundred pities that the British Government did not grasp this nettlesome years ago and say firmly and consistently, whatever Indians might ultimately find desirable as among themselves Britain could hand over power only to India united by a necessary minimum common Government. Had they done so, the position would have been far less dangerous today

THE IMPLICATIONS OF QUIT INDIA

"In terms of non-violence, "Quit India" is a healthy, potent cry of the soul" writes Mr. Mahatma Gandhi in the *Haryan*. "It [is] not a slogan. It means the end, through means purely truthful and non violent of foreign rule and domination. It does not mean the foreigner's destruction, but his willing conversion to Indian life. In this scheme there is no room for hatred of the foreigner. He is a man, even as we are. It is fear of him that gives rise to hatred. Fear gone, there can be no hatred."

"Thus his conversion implies our conversion too. If we cease to be inferiors he cannot be our superior. His arsenals and his weapons, typified in their extreme in the atom bomb, should have no terror for us."

It follows that we may not covet them. We often make the mistake of thinking that we must first have things before we cease to covet them. This tempting argument leads to the prolongation of the agony. Must I do all the evil I can, before I learn to shun it? Is it not enough to know the evil to shun it? If not, we should be sincere enough to admit that we love evil too well to give it up."

"Let us assume that foreign rule is ended. What should the foreigner do? He could hardly be considered free when he was protected by British arms. "As a free man, he will discover that it was wrong to possess privileges which the millions of India could not enjoy. He will live, doing his duty as behoves a son of India. He will no longer live at India's expense. On the contrary, he will give India all his talents, and by his services, render himself indispensable to the land of his adoption."

If this is true of the European, how

much more true must it be for Anglo-Indians and others who have adopted European manners and customs in order to be classed as Europeans demanding preferential treatment? "All such people will find themselves ill at ease, if they expect a continuation of the favoured treatment hitherto enjoyed by them. They should rather feel thankful that they will be disburdened of preferential treatment to which they had no right to any known canon of reasoning, and which was derogatory to their dignity."

"We have all—rulers and ruled—been living so long in a stifling, unnatural atmosphere that we might feel, in the beginning, that we have lost the lungs for breathing the invigorating zone of freedom. If the reality comes in an orderly, that is a non violent manner, because the parties feel that it is right, it will be a revealing lesson for the world."

ASIA'S AWAKENING

In the long run history may decide that the most important of all the terrific events of our epoch is the emergence of the peoples of Asia, writes *New Statesman and Nation*. "Millions of men and women whom the West has regarded as of little or no account, are becoming politically conscious, finding leaders of their own (many of them highly educated in western universities) and developing the same techniques and skills—and the same national pride—as western nations. There is no coherent conception of Asia and no common philosophy among Chinese, Indians, Filipinos, Indo Chinese and Indonesians, but there is among them a new realisation that Asiatics as a whole have been oppressed and exploited, a belief that they can now throw off the rule of the West and begin a new era of independent development. Nowhere have the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms been taken so seriously as in Asia."

RACIAL RELATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

In an article which in the April issue of *Race relations news* Mr J D Rheinalet Jones, Chairman of the South African Institute of Race Relations, says that it is regrettable that a measure of such vital importance to racial relations in South Africa as the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill should be hurried through Parliament so hastily

'In as General Smuts says', Mr Jones adds, there have to be sacrifices on both sides to ensure racial peace, would it not be more equitable to require those who demand restrictions on human rights to prove the need in each individual case? That is to say the Bill should reverse the process and provide rather that a strong judicial power independent of political influences should deal with individual applications for the restriction of residential and purchasing rights of any racial group

The article adds "If the United Nations' Charter means anything to the Union, let us ensure that limitations upon human rights are made only after the most scrupulous enquiry in every instance. We look in vain in this Bill for equality of sacrifice of which the Prime Minister speaks. What do the Europeans of Natal or Transvaal sacrifice? Can it be claimed that to grant a restricted franchise to Indians is to be measured against the withdrawal in Natal of Indians' present unrestricted right to live, own land and invest their savings in property?

For these reasons I cannot commend the bill and appeal to all who care for the welfare of our country to Press for its reconsideration so as to ensure that restrictions upon Asiatics shall not be wholesale and arbitrary but shall be subject in each case to judicial enquiry and decision

FOOD CRISIS IN INDIA

A boldly drawn word picture of India's need for food and a vigorous statement of reasons why the Allies must help her was presented by the Madras Government Food Adviser, Sir Sontu Ramamurti, in an article prominently displayed in the *Washington Post*

Under the headline, "Ten millions will die—and not easily" and with a large map showing Indian famine areas, the article declares. In the famine of 1943 in Bengal it was the poor people, voiceless shiftless people, who suffered. Now the people who face death belong to all ranks of the population—vocal and intelligent people. They will not die easily and, as food supplies fail, they will bring down the whole fabric of administration and life in India."

The article details the drastic steps already taken by the Indian Government and sets forth the absolute minimum needs as 1 000,000 tons of rice and 3 000 000 tons of wheat and millst

'If even this supply is not forthcoming, then some 10 000 000 are likely to die, and the whole population of South India will suffer debility. India feels that the threat of such a terrible calamity has come on her because she has given total help in total war. It is but common gratitude that the Allies should help her in her need.'

The article concluded on a note of warning. 'If India fails to get help, the bitterness that will be caused will poison the relations of India and the Anglo Americans for decades. The world will be rent in twain and all hopes of One World will be in vain.'

THE PATH OF PROGRESS

It has ever been thus. We give with one hand, take away with the other, advance with one foot, go back with the other, and call the resulting stagnant tension, balance of power, observes Robert Herring in *Life and Letters*. Social benefits go along with increased methods of sadism, enlightened progress and stricter punishments proceed in alternation. Times change and from age to age, the accent shifts from one type of being or activity to another, but within those types the permutations and combinations remain if not the same, at least recognizable. We know that the future demands of us more than has been asked before, but we know it must be faced because that is man's way. It is man's way to destroy what he has built—but also to build again, if only to destroy. A tedious process but each time, barely observable and felt more than seen the will to create is a fraction stronger than the compulsion to destroy.

THE GREATNESS OF GANDHI

The greatness of Mahatma Gandhi as a fighter for non-violence and civilisation of the world is emphasised by Mr Richard Davies, well known author of several books on theological and sociological subjects and one of the leading BBC speakers, in a full length contribution entitled 'Torch-bearers of Decency' to the weekly, *Cavalcade*.

'In Gandhi's vision,' Mr Davies says, 'politics is rooted in eternal spirit. That is why he is, forever, appealing against power in political and social life. However we may disagree with Gandhi's

pacifism, which ignores stubborn realities of imperfect human nature, we must not fail to realise that he stands as a barrier against the sin of violence and anti-civilisation not only in India but in the whole world."

Mr Davies states that India reflects not only the tragedy of Europe but also, its greatness. "In Gandhi" he says, "there is much of the European spirit at its greatest. His affinity with men lies in his evaluation of politics, which as he sees it derives its meaning from the order of life, altogether above politics."

BRITAIN'S WITHDRAWAL

The complete withdrawal of Britishers from India in any circumstances has been emphatically urged by *Peace News*, the influential Left wing weekly of London discussing the present Cabinet Mission negotiations in its well known column "observers commentary".

"One condition seems essential for the success of the Cabinet Mission," the paper says, 'and this is that the plenipotentiaries of the British Government should say quite clearly that, come what may, Britain intends to withdraw completely from India by a fixed date—and that, in the near future

'If there is to be anarchy or civil war in India, that is not our affair. But Mr Jinnah must be made to understand quickly and once for all that Britain no longer intends to hold the ring while he pursues his obstruction of Indian unity. He must settle or refuse to settle with the Congress directly. What is important is that the last vestige of the idea that the complete freedom of India depends upon a previous compromise between Hindu and Muslim political leaders should be eradicated.'

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

SUPPORT TO FREEDOM DEMAND

The Nawab of Chhattari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, in an interview to the Associated Press of India, expressed the view that Hyderabad would not stand in the way of the fulfilment of the legitimate aspirations of British India for political and other freedoms

As a premier State, he continued, it was only to be expected that Hyderabad should support the legitimate demands of the Indian States. The Nawab said, 'The primary consideration for Hyderabad would always remain the good of India'

THE HYDERABAD DISTURBANCES

H C H the Nizam, in a Firman published in a Gazette Extraordinary says

The recent disturbances (and rioting, which took place at the houses of the President of the Council and the Revenue Member in connection with the building of Dichpalli Mosque, were deplorable and unseemly beyond expression. It is the first incident of its kind that has happened in the history of Hyderabad. Time has now come for the Hyderabad Government to take energetic steps to punish the guilty in such a way as to be deterrent to other evildoers. Effective steps should be taken to preserve law and order to protect the lives and honour and property of the citizens, for no repetition of such disgraceful acts can be tolerated.

I have accordingly issued orders to my Government to take within next two or three months all steps necessary to deal with the unfortunate case

Mysore

COMMUNAL OUTLOOK IN SERVICES

Presiding over the 19th annual general meeting of the Mysore Service Association Mr O Pulla Reddi, ICS, Minister for Revenue expressed that Mysore was bound to be influenced by the currents which affected India and the wider world

Mr Pulla Reddi added that as things stood at present, communal representation in services was a principle of social justice, but the persistence of the communal outlook after one's entry into the service might well prove a major public disaster. In the Parliamentary type of Government, the Civil Service was more or less indispensable because they represented and maintained that continuity in administration which was lacking at the top because of changing Ministries. Their knowledge and experience of administration proved useful to changing ministries and he was not true to the service who did not give them proper advice and faithful guidance.

QUOTA FOR MYSORE

Mysore has been allotted by the Government of India 58 000 tons of wheat 59 000 tons of maize and 20,000 tons of rice from the allotment of the Combined Food Board of the United Nations in addition to quotas from Indian sources it is learnt

TWO CRORE IRRIGATION SCHEME FOR MYSORE

A scheme costing two crores of rupees spread over a period of five years to develop irrigation in Mysore as a means to realise economic self sufficiency in the matter of food production in the State has been drawn up by the Public Works Department of Mysore Government

Baroda

BARODA ASSEMBLY

Demonstrations by Muslims and Communist Party supporters marked the beginning of the Baroda State Assembly session on March 25. The State Muslim Conference, whose demand for a separate electorate was refused by the Government, observed a "protest day," while the Communist Party demonstrated in protest against the absence of an elected member for Labour.

In the morning, a mile long procession of Muslims paraded most of the thoroughfares of the city shouting slogans. They massed before the Assembly Chamber and raised hostile shouts when Sir Brojendra Mitter, the Dewan President, drove in.

For over 15 minutes the Dewan's inaugural address was drowned by the shouts of the Muslims and of the Communists, who also came out in procession.

Mr Rasool Khan Pathan, President of the All India States Muslim League and also President of the Baroda State Muslim Conference, who was nominated by the Maharaja as a representative of Labour in the Assembly, has resigned along with other members nominated from the Conference. The Maharaja has, however, appointed five other members, who attended the session.

The House cheered the Dewan when he declared the Government would endeavour to keep the poison of communalism out of Baroda State. It cheered again when Sir Brojendra welcomed the first woman Member, Miss Susheela Pundit.

Travancore

DEWAN ON FUTURE CONSTITUTION

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, said in an interview in Delhi (whither he had gone on invitation from the Cabinet Mission) that the Princes would be ready to surrender to a duly constituted Central Government in which they would have a voice on such things as national defence, external affairs, customs and communications, but would never submit to a division of India. "At any cost whatever" he said, "we oppose division of India."

The Dewan, said that he felt he was voicing the views of most of the Princes of India in opposing the division of India and in exchanging treaties with England for treaties with a new Government in India.

His statement was made in an interview sandwiched in between Conferences with representatives or heads of other Indian States all of whom recognise that a major change in their history will come abruptly with a shift of control from British hands to Indian hands.

SIR C V RAMAN FOR RESEARCH

Sir C V Raman has accepted the Honorary Professorship of Physics of the Travancore University and is assisting in the preparation of a scheme of research into mineral resources of the State. This written answer was given by the syndicate of the Travancore University at a meeting of the Senate held on April 6 at the Legislative Chamber under the presidency of Mr H C Papworth, pro-Vice Chancellor.

Cochin

NEW MAHARAJA OF COCHIN

Religious functions in connection with the installation of H H Sree Kerala Varma, the new Maharaja of Cochin, were performed last month at the historic Mattancherry Palace.

Bahawalpur

THE SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT

Effect on irrigation of the Pahara Dam in Bahawalpur State was the subject of discussion when H E the Viceroy and Lady Wavell visited the Punjand Head works which is situated at the borders of the Punjab. His Excellency discussed at length the Sutlej Valley Project, with the principal officials of the Bahawalpur Government.

The Sutlej Valley Canals, 3,950 miles of total length, have converted extensive sandy tracts into fertile cultivable zones and have attracted over 700,000 immigrants from British India. The total area ultimately to be irrigated is 3,108,000 acres, of which 3,000,000 acres are now being cultivated in the State, 1,900,000 acres in the Punjab and 1,000 acres in Bikaner State.

Bharatpur

TEMPLE ENTRY IN BHARATPUR

An extraordinary meeting of the Bharatpur State Council was held recently at which the Maharaja sponsored a resolution that the temple of Lachmanji should be thrown open to the Harijans. The resolution was passed.

Accordingly, the opening ceremony of the temple for the entry of Harijans was performed on April 14 by the Maharaja.

Rewa

A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR REWA

Maharaja Marthandsinghji, Ruler of Rewa, has received the recognition of his succession to the Rewa *Gadi* from H M the King and H E the Viceroy through the British Resident, Lt Col Campbell. The Maharaja announced in durbar his decision to appoint Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, former Advocate General, Madras, as Chairman of a Committee which will, after inquiry, draw up a workable constitution suited to Rewa for introducing a "popular system of Government."

Jaipur

JAIPUR BANS CHILD MARRIAGE

The Jaipur State Legislative Council has passed the Child Marriage Restraint Bill, which is an adaptation of the Sarda Act in force in British India. It will come into force from January 1, 1947.

An amendment sponsored by Muslim members of the House to the effect that Muslims should be exempted from the provisions of the bill was defeated.

Kashmir

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS

Successful experiments on the acclimatization of a large number of foreign varieties of paddy have been made by the Agriculture Department of Jammu and Kashmir. These experiments have proved that a number of Chinese Varieties of paddy can adapt themselves to the Kashmir soil and its environmental conditions. Three of the Chinese varieties have yielded 50 to 60 maunds of paddy per acre against an average of 35 maunds per acre yielded by the local varieties.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

ANTI INDIAN BILL IN S AFRICA

Sir A Ramaswami Mudaliar, Leader of the House announced in the Central Assembly on April 15 that, in the event of the South African Bill (restricting Indians' right to occupy the acquire land) being passed into law the Government of India would take steps to bring this issue before the United Nations' Organisation

Sir A Ramaswami Mudaliar added 'The fact that there is no difference of opinion between the Legislature and the Government on this subject will I trust give sufficient confidence to the public that every step will be taken which is required by the situation and is in consonance with the dignity and prestige of this country

In reply to a question by Dewan Chamanlal, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar said that the thought the Indian High Commissioner in South Africa would be returning to this country very shortly

END OF TRADE PACT

The Government of India have formally given the Union Government notice terminating the Trade Agreement between the two countries

The official note reached the External Affairs Department just at the time of General Smuts' motion for the second reading of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill

The termination of the agreement is subject to three months' notice

Malaya

PANDIT NEHRU'S IMPRESSION

"The over all effect of my visit to Malaya and my brief passage through Burma has been to enable me to see the Indian problem in a wider perspective of Asia and to some extent of the world, for, India is obviously going to make a difference to the world situation whichever way she goes. There was a realisation of this everywhere. People felt that the Independence of India was the key to the freedom of other Asiatic countries," said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressing a gathering of pressmen assembled at Anand Bhawan to have the impressions of his tour in Malaya

Pandit Nehru felt that a bubbling vitality pervaded through Malaysians now and they were politically wide awake

U. S. A.

ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO U S

Mr Dean Acheson, the Under Secretary of State, was among the 15 witnesses on the Indian immigration legislation, who gave evidence before the special five man sub committee of the Senate Immigration Committee on April 16

Mr Acheson gave "the whole hearted support of the State Department" for the legislation, which now needs only Senate action to establish an annual quota for India and provide for naturalisation of Indians legally residing in the United States at present

MULTUM IN PARVO.

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CONGRESS FORMULA TO ALLAY LEAGUE'S FEARS

"The Congress stands for four fundamental things. First, complete independence, second, united India, third, one Federation composed of fully autonomous units, which will have residuary powers in their hands, and fourth, two lists of central subjects, one compulsory and the other optional."

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President thus summed up the Congress position as it has emerged from the four days' discussions by the Working Committee in Delhi.

The Congress President said in a statement that he had succeeded in making the Congress Working Committee accept a formula based on these four fundamentals which he said, secured whatever merits the Pakistan scheme contained, while all its defects and drawbacks were avoided.

INDIANISATION OF THE ARMY

The future Indian army would require about 2000 regular officers, according to a tentative estimate which the Commander in Chief gave in the Council of State, speaking on a resolution moved by Pandit Karam

General Auchinleck said that it was the intention of the Government of India to create a completely national army officered and manned throughout by Indians in the shortest possible space of time without

lowering the very high standard of efficiency and competence of the Indian Army. India was fortunate in that, she already had a highly efficient army the rank and file of which was for all practical purposes hundred per cent Indian. It was the nationalisation of the officer cadre of that army which constituted a problem before us to day. It was the declared policy of the Government of India that the British officer element of the Indian Army shall be replaced by Indian officers as soon as possible.

FOOD PLAN FOR INDIA

A comprehensive five year plan to overcome India's estimated annual food deficit, of between 25 and 30 million tons through a Government sponsored and financed improvement of agriculture, fisheries and animal food sources, has been proposed by the National Planning Committee's Sub-Committee on Food.

'Import of foodgrains need not be necessary in this country' said the Sub-Committee, if the resources were properly developed. 'It must be the first concern of the National Planning Authority to make up this (food) deficit within a term of not more than five years.'

The proposed programme laid considerable stress upon formation of agricultural co-operatives, particularly for bringing uncultivated land under the plough, upon improving agricultural and fishing techniques and upon planned breeding as a means of increasing the supply of animal foods.

Utterances of the Day

C. IN C's ADVICE TO INDIAN AND BRITISH FORCES

In a message broadcast to all officers of the Indian and British forces in India, Gen Sir Claude Auchinleck, the Commander-in-Chief, said: "Remain disciplined, efficient, and loyal to whatever Government may be in power

"Indian officers, do not cut your own foot with your own mattock. Do not take or connive at any action which may impair the discipline, efficiency or loyalty of the Army to the Government of the day

"British officers, serve the new India as loyally as in the past your Indian comrades have served the present India. It is your duty to your country, and to the Army to which you belong, to pass on to your Indian comrades, who are to follow you, in a spirit of unselfishness and service, all the experience and knowledge that you have gained in the past, so that they in their turn, may serve the Indian army as faithfully and truly as you have done. Thus may the Indian army lead the way "

"The object of the British is to hand over a peaceful India. The object of the Indians is to take over a peaceful India. The nationalists of India, who have worked so long and hard for the independence of their country, cannot desire it in any other way, otherwise they will run the risk of failing to reap the reward of their efforts, which is a free India, strong and able to stand on its own feet. Our objects therefore are identical

"Unfortunately, there are, however, in India certain disruptive forces as there are

certain to be at a time like this. There may therefore be trouble. If so, it is the duty of the Police to deal with it. If, however, the police cannot deal with it, then the Army will be called on to help.

"If, however, the Army, through inefficiency or unreliability in the performance of its duties in the maintenance of law and order, fails to carry out the orders of the Government in power at the time, then the internal situation may well develop into chaos. Internal chaos means suffering, misery and loss to everyone, and can only retard progress

PANDIT NEHRU ON INDIAN NATIONALISM

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressing a great gathering at Kuala Lumpur declared that the kind of nationalism Indians believe in 'is of an enlightened type which will not lead to aggression.'

"If we believe in independence for India we also believe in independence for other countries," Pandit Nehru said

In future, Pandit Nehru said, strong ties of friendship would bring India closer to the other countries in East Asia

"Apart from sentimental and historical reasons there is the compulsion of geography. India is going to be the pivot of the freedom struggle of Asia," he said

Pandit Nehru, declared, "The spirit that has arisen in India will not be cowed down by any material sufferings. We have not only certainty of the future, not only confidence of the coming independence, but also confidence in our ability to raise 400 million of our people from poverty "

SARDAR PATEL'S REPLY TO MR JINNAH'S CLAIM

If Mr Jinnah is not an Indian, there can be no question of his participation in the Indian constitution. This is the view of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who considers it "a monstrous thing that a man can claim different nationality because he changes his religion." Sardar Patel gave Mr Fraser Wighton, *Reuter's* Political Correspondent, these reflections in an interview in New Delhi in the course of which he answered some of Mr Jinnah's recent statements and reviewed the constitutional situation generally.

Sardar Patel said that if the principle of religion determining nationality were admitted as Mr Jinnah claimed in recent utterances that it should be, then Indian Christians, Sikhs, Parsis and others equally could make the claim. Moreover the Congress Party, which had been fighting for the freedom of India for the past fifty to sixty years under the banner of nationalism, would have to convert itself into a purely communal organisation.

"So far as the Congress is concerned there can be no compromise on the subject of Pakistan", declared Sardar Patel.

SIR C P ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF PAKISTAN

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, commenting on the resolutions passed by the Muslim League Legislators' Convention, said

"The resolutions passed by the Leaguers form the culmination of a series of progressively increasing demands. Now we hear that Pakistan is only the latest

demand, but not the last one. In other words, they will scheme later the conquest of the whole of India or for a treaty with Russia to advance the Muslims' interest. These claims are so exaggerated that, personally speaking, I do not attach any importance to them, and regard them as expressions of nervousness due to consciousness of a weak case."

"If as now indicated", he added, "Pakistan and Hindustan should have different foreign policies and different treaties with the various Powers, then all hopes of peaceful development will be at an end."

GANDHIJI'S ADVICE ON SALARIES OF MINISTERS

"The British scale of pay cannot be copied by them except at their cost," says Mahatma Gandhi referring to the question of increase in Ministerial salaries.

He writes in the *Haryana*: "Ministers and members of the Provincial Assemblies are in their respective places as servants of the people in every sense of the term. The British scale of pay cannot be copied by them except at their cost nor need all draw payments because a certain scale is allowed. The scale fixes the limit upto which they may draw. It will be ludicrous for a moneyed man to draw the full or any payment. The payments are meant for those who cannot easily afford to render free service. They are representatives of the poorest people in the world. What they draw is paid by the poor. Let them remember this salient fact and act and live accordingly."

MADRAS VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE

In order to meet in some measure the demand for facilities for higher education especially in science subjects the Vivekananda College has been founded. Application for affiliation to the University has been made and subject to its approval arrangements are made to start work from June 1946. The College will be open to all and no student will be denied admission on grounds of caste, creed or nationality.

It is intended to admit this year about 300 students to all the courses of study. Rao Babadur D. Subrahmanya Sarma has kindly accepted the invitation to be the first Principal of the College.

The College is managed by the Sri Ramakrishna Mission acting through a local Board of Management.

A sum of Rs. 56 lakhs has so far been collected for the College and a further sum of Rs. 5 lakhs must be raised for lands, buildings and equipment.

The Committee appeal to the public for help towards the maintenance and expansion of the College.

INDIAN STUDENTS IN AMERICA

One hundred and seventy-five students selected by the Government of India for studies and training abroad have so far reached America in batches. Every one of these students has a place reserved for him at the best available university of his studies.

Arrangements had been made at the universities to enable the students to begin studies as early as September last, owing to lack of transportation from

India they could not arrive in time at the beginning of the academic year.

The problem of securing hotel accommodation these days is extremely difficult particularly at port towns like New York. Tens of thousands of American soldiers are being brought back from abroad and nearly all hotels are sold solidly in advance. Notwithstanding these difficulties the Educational Liaison Officer with the Agent General and his staff make arrangements for receiving the students and arranging for further transportation.

INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

Calcutta has the largest number of students, colleges and library books, being 40,000, 40 and 206,000 respectively.

Madras comes next with 77 colleges and nearly 100,000 books in the University Library.

Bombay comes third with 50 colleges, 35,300 students and 70,000 books.

Benares, which is a Unitary University, offers the largest number of courses in most advanced cultural and scientific subjects.

The cost of living is cheapest in Annamalai University where it is about Rs. 20 per mensem. It is highest in Bombay where it is about Rs. 50.

Examination fees are highest in Travancore University.

The newest of Universities is that of Utkal (Orissa), started but two years ago.

The youngest University will be that of Maharashtra, which is about to be started at Poona.

Legal

DEMONETISATION ORDINANCE

The Reserve Bank of India demonetisation case challenging the validity of the Demonetisation Ordinance was dismissed by a special bench of the Calcutta High Court.

Mr N C Chatterjee, counsel for the petitioner, told the court that the Advocate General of India, Sir N P Engineer had handed over to him a copy of the recent Parliamentary Statute whereby the Government of India Act had been amended extending the powers of the Governor General in respect of all matters enumerated in the Legislative Lists in the Constitution. He was therefore helpless as no one could challenge an Act of Parliament as unconstitutional or *ultra vires*.

Their Lordships having regard to the recent enactment by the British Parliament discharged the rule but made no order as to costs.

The petitioner, Mr Bholanath Buthan alleged that following the promulgation of the Demonetisation Ordinance of 1946 the Reserve Bank had declined to discharge the unconditional promise to pay on demand as contained in the bank note and as such had acted in contravention of its duty and obligation.

The case was originally heard before Mr Justice Clough who however referred the matter to a special bench as it appeared to him that the contentions urged on behalf of the petitioner raised an interpretation of the Government of India Act 1935.

Sir N P Engineer, Advocate General of India, appeared on behalf of the Government of India.

HIGH COURT JURISDICTION

The Government are considering the question of amending the Madras High Court's Jurisdiction Act to bring within it the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the areas adjoining the city and lying in the Chingleput District recently brought within the City Municipal limit with effect from April 1, will have to be held in abeyance in view of the amendment mentioned.

Mr P Govinda Menon Crown Prosecutor Madras has been appointed as Prosecutor for India at the International Military Trial of major Japanese war crime suspects. Mr Menon will lead the Prosecution case in respect of offences committed by the Japanese accused against Indian soldiers.

The trial which is similar to that of the Nazis trial at Nuremberg is likely to last for about six months. It is expected that the trial will begin at Tokyo at the end of this month. Besides India eight countries will be represented on the Prosecution side including England United States Russia and Australia. The English Prosecutor is Mr Coymns Carr. The tribunal is composed of nine judges the President being Sir William Flood Webb, Chief Justice of Queensland.

RELEASE OF DETENUS

The Government have released about 102 out of about 326 detenus who had been convicted for offences such as rioting etc during the August 1942 disturbances.

Insurance

INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Explaining the provisions of the Insurance Amendment Bill, Sir Azizul Haque the Commerce Member stated in the Central Assembly that it was designed to bring about better order in the insurance business and prevent unscrupulous persons and monopolists 'playing havoc' with insurance management and in particular, with the Insurance Fund of policy holders. The Bill was designed generally on the recommendations of the Cowasjee Jehangir Committee which had brought to light these irregularities. The primary object in view was safeguarding the interests of life policy holders.

As the law stood to day, there was no restriction on the voting rights of the various classes of shareholders or on the form in which the capital of an insurance firm could be issued. This provided special inducement for designing financiers who had made their millions in wartime to acquire control over insurance concerns to indulge in reckless speculative manipulation of large life funds under the guise of adopting an 'active investment policy'. Apart from acquiring such control, they also ensured employments for their proteges at top positions at very high salaries, irrespective of their qualifications or ability. The Bill proposed to meet this menace by placing a limit on the proportion of shares an individual could have and by restricting the capital structure of insurance companies to be confined to only one class of shares, namely, ordinary shares.

The Bill also dealt with another category of evils—cases in which such persons

acquired control of insurance companies not with their own money, but with the funds of banks over which they first acquired control. To prevent such 'unwholesome alliances', it was proposed to restrict investments by banking and investment companies in the share of life insurance companies and *vice versa*.

FACILITIES FOR REINSURANCE

The Committee of the Indian Insurance Companies Association, in a statement to the Press, refers to a circular letter received by them from the New Zealand Insurance Co Ltd, of Auckland, proposing to float a reinsurance company with a capital of Rs one crore, of which the New Zealand Company would subscribe 51 per cent and subscription for the balance is to be invited from Indian companies, and says 'The Committee are opposed to the floatation of a reinsurance company under the auspices and control of a foreign insurance company, as it is absolutely inconsistent with the progress and future development of Indian insurance companies. The Indian insurance companies are quite capable of commanding ample resources to manage their own reinsurance problems without any outside control or authority. Indian insurance companies have been sharing only 30 per cent of the available non life insurance business in this country, the balance of 70 per cent being controlled by foreign companies and if schemes of the nature proposed by foreign companies were to be put through, Indian insurance companies are bound to lose their separate entity both in India as well as in outside countries of the world'.

INDIAN SHIPPING POLICY

An agreement generally covering matters relating to Indian shipping in Indian coastal waters and the seas adjacent to India as well as the seas beyond has been reached by the Shipping Policy Committee which met in Delhi recently. This was disclosed in an interview here by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, who is Chairman of the Committee.

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar said 'Opinion in the Committee was fairly clear that coastal shipping to the utmost extent should be reserved for India and certain high percentages should be fixed for other shipping.

No difficulty was anticipated about the acquisition of ships. But there was some difference of opinion as to the meaning of the expression Indian shipping, one group holding the view that it means, as it should mean, shipping owned, controlled and managed by Indians and the other taking a different view. But the majority view was in favour of Indian shipping being defined as shipping owned controlled and managed by Indians.'

TRADE DISPUTES ACT

The House of Commons by 349 votes to 162, passed a Bill repealing the Trade Disputes Act of 1927, and thus ended a political dispute which has raged periodically for nearly 20 years.

This Act was passed by a Conservative Government at the time of the General Strike of 1926 and made general strikes illegal, prevented established civil servants

from joining Trade Unions, and forbade the Civil Servants Union from linking up with the Trade Union Congress and the Labour Party. It also made it law that if a member of a Trade Union wanted to subscribe to a political levy of the Union, he had to "contract" (That is to state specifically that he wished to do so)

TAX REDUCTIONS FOR THE POOR

The Finance Member announced in the Central Assembly on the 27th March the following tax reductions for the poor

1 Reduction of the price of post cards to half an anna. This is expected to come into effect from July 1

2 Reduction of duty on kerosene by an anna and a half instead of nine pias per gallon announced in the original budget

3 Reduction in the price of a match box to half an anna. This is expected to come into effect in the 'not distant future'

4 Excise duty on betelnut to be reduced by half an anna per lb

5 Increase of the annual grant for better marketing and production of betelnut

6 Reduction of duty on raw cinematograph films from six pias to three pias

NEWLY MINTED PENNIES

Slowly but surely, life is coming back to normal in Great Britain. The English penny, for example, which for four years was suspended from the Royal Mints operations, is again being struck. In fact, over 40 million new pennies were recently issued.

MRS. HANSA MEHTA ON WOMEN'S CHARTER

Mrs. Hansa Mehta, President of the All-India Women's Conference at Surat addressing a women's meeting demanded all human rights for woman. Mrs. Mehta felt that all inequalities between man and woman, so far as these rights were concerned, should be levelled up.

Outlining the women's charter that is being prepared by the All-India Women's Conference Mrs Mehta pointed out that woman should have equal rights with man in every sphere of life. All women over 21 should have the right of voting and women should be allotted 50 per cent of the seats in all legislatures.

In the economic field the women's charter envisaged by the All-India Women's Conference would demand, Mrs Mehta added, that women be recruited in civil, judicial and administrative services on a par with men. She resented that right of men to spend his income at his pleasure and said that women who were managing the household when man was out for earning his living should have equal rights over the expenditure. The speaker also demanded equality of rights for women on questions of ancestral property adoption marriage and divorce.

Concluding Mrs. Mehta emphasised that while women demanded equal rights they should share responsibility also. She hoped that women would prove better and able citizens than at present and would bring about the improvement of the

WOMAN'S PLACE

All the commentators have consistently assumed that a woman must be either a domestic drudge or a creature of licence, intellectual or otherwise. But surely there is a compromise between the hearth and the university hostel says the *Times of India*. Is it not possible for the woman to rock the cradle with one hand and adjust the slide-rule with the other, to divide her hours of reading between the cookery book and Kant? Can she not keep the drawing room and her mind equally free from cobwebs? Only recently we carried an item of news about Mrs. Mrinalini Ghose, "an old lady with eleven grandsons and grand daughters," who had been awarded the M.A. degree of Patna University and, moreover, had headed the list of candidates. Who would dare argue that this lady has neglected her domestic duties? Clearly she is one who can wear the academic robe and the housewife's apron with equal facility. When all women have achieved that goal, we shall hear no more about "the woman's place." It will be taken for granted that she has not one but many, and that each at the proper moment will claim her attention. All the intelligent man will ask is that she does not get her timetable confused.

GIRLS AHEAD OF BOYS

In all 2,224 students appeared from Christian institutions in the U. Provinces for the High School and Intermediate examination of whom 1,484 passed or about 66 per cent. Of these the number of Christian students that passed is only 176 or about 12 per cent. of the total number that passed. This number includes 150 who were 104.

THE NEW INFORMATION OFFICER

Mr A S Iyengar is a well known figure in New Delhi and there is hardly any Madrasite of any consequence who has been in Delhi and has not seen him. Recently he took office as the Principal Information Officer to the Government of India in place of Mr Pothan Joseph, another brilliant South Indian who vacated it. Actually Mr Joseph's predecessor Mr J Natarajan was also a South Indian though domiciled outside the province. Mr Iyengar, says a correspondent, is a very popular figure and quite an institution in the political and social life of the capital. What the Government of India gains is the loss of independent journalism. He is a patriot of the highest calibre and it remains to be seen if he can remain in Government service for long. Already there has been some furore in a section of the rabid communal press. But it is hailed as a wise appointment making for a closer and more cordial relationship between the Government on the one hand and the Press and the general public on the other.

NEWSPAPER DELEGATION

The Government of India have agreed to the suggestion of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society that a delegation of newspaper interests should be deputed to Canada, U S A and the U K for the purpose of securing adequate newsprint supplies for India says a Press note. The delegation will consist of Mr Devadas Gandhi (Hindustan Times) and Mr Ramanath Goenka (Indian Express Madras). Mr D G Currie, Director of Paper Department of Industries and Supplies will accompany them as adviser. Mr Devadas Gandhi will lead the delegation. It is anticipated that the delegation will spend about a week in the U K and a fortnight in Canada and the U S A.

MARATHI HARIJAN

The Marathi edition of the 'Harjan' has appeared after 43 months break due to the ban since August 1942. Most of the articles are translations of Mahatma Gandhi's articles in the 'Harjan' printed in other languages.

MR N SUNDARESAN

Mr N Sundaresan, Joint Secretary Finance Department Government of India, who has been selected to represent India on the Board of Directors of the International Monetary Fund, has left for England *en route* to Washington to take up his new appointment. He will meet Sir Chintaman Deshmukh, Governor of the Reserve Bank at London to discuss various problems arising out of India's participation in the Bretton Woods Agreements.

India has now secured a permanent seat on the Board of Directors of the Fund and the Bank. While Mr Sundaresan will represent India on the Fund, Mr J V Joshi, Economic Adviser to the Reserve Bank of India will represent it on the Board of Directors of the International Bank. The latter will it is understood remain in America for less than a year or so, after which he is expected to return to India to take up his job in the Reserve Bank. Thereafter it is understood that Mr Sundaresan will represent the country both on the Board of Directors of the Fund and the Bank if satisfactory arrangements could be made for his functioning part time as Director in both the institutions in addition to his holding the post of Financial Adviser to the Agent General at Washington.

INDIAN MEMBERS OF U N C

The following have accepted, in their individual capacity invitations from the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to become members of the various nucleus commissions —

Mr K C Neogy (Commission on Human Rights), Prof P C Mahalanobis (Statistical Commission) and Sir Gurnath Bewoor (Transport and Communications Commission).

The commissions are expected to meet in New York towards the end of April.

The Council has also appointed Maj C Mani, Deputy Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India as member and Dr Chunilal Katia, Indian medical practitioner in London, as alternate, for the Technical Preparatory Committee for the Health Conference.

NEW DAVEY CURE FOR MALARIA

Dr D G Davey, co discoverer of Paludrine, the new anti malaria drug, which, it is claimed, is ten times as powerful as quinine, is now in this country in the course of a tour of investigation of malaria and its control in the tropics

Interviewed, Dr Davey said that Paludrine provided a complete and permanent cure for malignant tertian malaria. There was evidence that a single dose would control a clinical attack of malaria, and one tablet taken twice a week would prevent clinical symptoms from appearing.

Production was going on already on a small scale, said Dr Davey. A new plant was being erected in Scotland. The drug was first synthesised in January 1943 in the laboratories of the Imperial Chemical Industries in Manchester by Dr F L Ruse, Dr Davey and Dr F H S Curd after experiments lasting nearly four years.

Dr Davey said that all the investigators considered that Paludrine constituted a very important advance in the chemotherapy of malaria. It was free from unpleasant effects. The latitude which the physician was allowed in choosing the dose of Paludrine was greater than in the case of any other anti malaria drug.

U S HOSPITALS IN INDIA

Dr B C Roy, who was deputed by the Congress President Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, to negotiate the taking over of available American military hospitals and equipment in India for meeting the public health needs of the country, told the Associated Press of India in an interview that the American authorities had now altered their scheme. Instead of dealing with individuals or non Government organisations, they were handing over the whole equipment to the Government of India. This really meant that the Government of India would buy the equipment and sell it to different organisations and individuals from time to time.

POST WAR PLANS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

On the basis of the recommendations of the Public Health Sub Committee of the Post War Reconstruction General Committee the Government had issued a Five Year Plan for the first quinquennium of the post war period. They have now decided that the proposals of the Sub Committee should be reviewed in the light of the recommendations since made by the Government of India Bhor Committee. The Heads of Departments concerned have been asked to take action accordingly.

DISEASE AND MALNUTRITION

The Director of the Ross Institute of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Dr C MacDonald, told the Institute's Industrial Advisory Committee that there had been a serious deterioration of the general state of public health in India. Disease and malnutrition had become re established on a large scale.

In Malaya, places which had long been healthy had again become highly malarious. In Singapore Island there was again extensive breeding of a dangerous mosquito.

FREE HEALTH SERVICE BILL IN BRITAIN

Health service for all—with no doctor's bills, except for those who want to pay them—will be established in Britain by early 1948 if the National Health Service Bill presented to Parliament by the Minister of Health, Mr Aneurin Bevan, is passed.

The first part of the Bill proposes nationalisation of all existing voluntary and local Government hospitals. The country will be divided into 16 to 20 regions in which Boards will be set up to assess the hospital needs of each region. The Boards will appoint committees of management for individual hospitals. Finance will be provided by the State.

The second part of the Bill provides for prohibition of sale of doctors' practices which are wholly or partly within the National Health Service and for arrangements for a State doctors' service.

WORLD BANK AND INDIA

At the meeting, at Savannah of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and Monetary Fund set up under the Bretton Woods Agreement the Indian delegation raised a question whether there would be a conflict in the problem of retaining its permanent directorates on the Bank and Fund since the new deadline might allow Russia a chance to displace India as a member of the Big Five. The Indian delegation asked whether the Board's action in extending the deadline might not conflict with the report of the special committee considering the Indian Russian problem when the report was made. The Chairman Mr. Frederick Vinson ruled that there was no conflict at present but if the special committee's report conflicted with India's interest the Board would have full opportunity to discuss the situation and if necessary to amend its actions.

At a later meeting the Board gave India a virtual assurance that she would be a Director of the World Bank and Fund.

BANKING IN INDIA

Mr. M. P. Gandhi in a talk on 'Our Banks from the Bombay station of All India Radio' observed that a comparison of India's banking structure with that of other advanced countries revealed that India was quite backward. While the *per capita* deposit in Britain was Rs. 800 and in America Rs. 1,000 in India it was only seven rupees. While there was a bank in Britain for every 4,000 inhabitants and in the U.S. for every 8,000 inhabitants, in India the proportion was one bank for 200,000 people. Mr. Gandhi said that banks in India had a great future.

INDIA A CREDITOR

India Government's Member for Supply Mr. A. A. Waugh who recently arrived in Washington as head of the Mission to settle Indo-American Lend Lease problems says that in view of the large amount of reciprocal aid furnished by India to United States his Government might become the creditor and not the debtor in the present negotiations.

WORKING OF S.I. IN 1945-46

The S. I. Railway has published an estimate of its working results for the year 1945-46 based on the first eight months of the year up to the end of November 1945. These show that the number of passengers increased by 14.63 per cent from 82 to 94 millions last year but the distance travelled by each passenger was less the fall being 3.70 per cent leading to the assumption that the long distance military traffic a feature of the war years was tending to fall off.

The distance run by passenger vehicles increased by 7.14 per cent from 42 to 45 millions reflecting the improvements in the train services effected in October, but this had not kept pace with the increase in the number of passengers up to that time.

Since Jan. 1, 1946 however large improvements have been effected in the train services which have undoubtedly relieved overcrowding but it will be possible to judge the effect of these, when the January figures are available.

METRE-GAUGE BY SURVEY

The Railway Board have sanctioned Engineering and traffic surveys being carried out by the agency of the B.B. & C.I. Rly. for a north-south metre gauge railway connection from Khandwa on the G.I.P. Rly. to a junction with H.E.H. the Nizam's State Railway. The survey by the B.B. and C.I. Railway will be confined to the portion lying in British India. The survey will be known as the North-South Metre Gauge connection Railway Survey.

RAILWAY MEDICAL EXAMINATION COACH

A special medical examination coach 57 feet long and comprising a compartment for the medical officer with adjacent laboratory fully equipped divisional superintendent and clerk's office three examination cubicles, a waiting room and lavatories has been prepared at Swindon, England. This coach will be employed by the medical officers of the Great Western Railway for travelling to employees of the company rather than have the men go long distances to some central point for examination.

ALL INDIA ART CONFERENCE

The first all India Art Conference which met at New Delhi last month under the presidentship of Mr D P Roy Choudhri strongly recommended that the Government of India should take an active interest in the promotion of arts

The other resolutions which the Conference passed were mainly organisational. One resolution related to the formation of a Committee to explore the possibilities of starting art societies in India and another appointed a Committee to draft a new constitution for the all India Art Society

The Government of India Information Department have already started a separate section for the promotion of art in India and considerable fund has also been allotted

MADRAS FINE ARTS EXHIBITION

A 'Fine Arts Exhibition' organised in aid of the centenary celebration of Dr Annie Besant was declared open by Dr J H Cousins at the premises of the Hindustan Scouts Association Mylapore, on April 5. The Exhibition which has been got up by the Besant Centenary Celebrations Committee, was a mobile one.

Mr N R Subramania Iyer, President of the Committee welcomed the gathering.

Declaring open the Exhibition, Dr Cousins said religion and art were both the same thing and of the same cultural soil. Expressing appreciation of the juvenile section of the Exhibition Dr Cousins stressed the need for giving an opportunity to every child to be artistic.

TAGORE'S BUST FOR POETS' CORNER

A statue of Rabindranath Tagore may soon be erected in the Hyde Park famous for memorials of the world's greatest men of letters or statesmen.

It is understood that another suggestion, to have a bust of Dr Tagore in the Poets' Corner, has also been made and is under consideration of the Society.

INDIAN CRICKET TEAM FOR AUSTRALIA

Mr K S Ranga Rao, Honorary Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, has received a cable from the board of control for cricket in Australia inviting the Indian team to tour Australia and he has replied accepting the invitation on behalf of the Indian Board.

The cable from the Australian Board of Control reads "Australia extends cordial invitation Indian team to visit Australia season 1947-48 as proposed Imperial Cricket Conference subject arrangements satisfactory conditions. Writing."

Mr Ranga Rao's reply reads "Indian Cricket Board thanks you for your kind invitation to tour Australia 1947-48 and has great pleasure in accepting."

Sir Pelham Warner, Editor of the *Cricketer Spring Annual* devotes practically the whole of his editorial to the Indian tour this summer.

Sir Pelham writes "The Indians come with a great reputation as run getters and if they pull together like a Varsity rowing eight they may well test us to the utmost."

Two other articles dwell on the Indian tour, one entitled 'Indian Teams in England' by A W T Langford gives a wealth of facts regarding previous Indian tours in this country. The reader is reminded that 60 years have passed since the first team of Indian cricketers visited England.

ENGLAND'S BOWLING PROBLEM

Commander C B Fry R N R in an article on 'The Bowling Problem' begins "Everybody knows and says that the problem facing the construction of an England XI to meet India and afterwards Australia is the problem of finding bowlers."

The trouble is he says, that England does not know where to put her hand on talent in this line. The Commander says that the scarcity of slow left hand bowlers in England is no less notable.

TEN DISCOVERIES THAT TOP

What were the ten most important scientific advances of 1945? Warson Davis, director of *Science Service* chose

- 1 The atomic bomb—and the practical release of nuclear energy
- 2 Verification of the transuranium chemical elements 93, 94, 95 and 96
- 3 Use of the drug, streptomycin
- 4 The Army & Navy's proximity fuse
- 5 LORAN, an aid to navigation based on timed radio signals
- 6 Psychological warfare methods which speeded the Japanese surrender
- 7 British development of BAL success ful antidote for arsenic poisoning
- 8 The rodent poisons 1080 and ANTU
- 9 The Russians' successful transplantation of hearts in warmblooded animals
- 10 Steps towards establishment of a National Science Foundation

Notable omission radar—released from military secrecy last August.

CONTROL OF ATOMIC BOMBS

Scientists and statesmen are working hard on the vital problem of control of the world's uranium supplies as an essential preliminary to the control of manufacture of atomic bombs. 'Rare earth,' containing uranium, is found in Tunisia territory in North Africa next to Tripolitania. Largest deposits of uranium are said to be in the Belgian Congo, states a British news magazine.

FELLOWSHIP FOR DEAD SCIENTIST

The British Royal Society has just been surprised to discover that it accidentally awarded one of its rare Fellowships to a foreign scientist, Nicholas Ivanovitch Vavilov, a Russian, considered to be one of the world's greatest geneticists who had been dead twelve months.

He died at Saratov in 1941 in undisclosed circumstances. In 1942, the Royal Society elected him a Foreign Member, the highest award that can be given to a foreign scientist.

WARNERS' FILM OF CHURCHILL

Warners are anxious to film the life of Winston Churchill and prefer to produce it in Hollywood. The ex Prime Minister is understood to be in favour provided the film is made in London where he can keep an eye on it.

Actors under consideration for the name role, if the film is made, include Richard Morley and Charles Laughton.

'Winnie' is admitted by all Hollywood experts to be a difficult character to cast. Few stars have his girth, accent and forceful character, and a star must play him.

20 M M FILM

A new Sub Standard for film is 20 millimeters in width and the new process is said to have created a great stir in political business and technological sphere according to the *Screen World*.

For the indications are that unlike the 16 m m film, which is mainly used for educational pictures, 20 m m film will be extensively used for entertainment film as such. It would be subject to the same legal and trade considerations as 35 m m film. Besides, 20 m m film with nitrate base would give far better results than the present standard film.

KISMET'S RECORD

"This is something for our producers to think about comments a London film journal on the success of the Bombay Talkies' *Kismet*.

The record run and collection of the picture are £50 000 in 106 weeks: at Calcutta, 60 000 in 51 weeks at Bombay, 50 weeks at Karachi, 40 weeks at Lahore and 53 weeks in Delhi.

GEMINI PICTURES CIRCUIT LTD

The Gemini Pictures Circuit, the distribution concern of Mr S S Vasan, we are informed, has been made into a limited company under the name of 'Gemini Pictures Circuit Limited' from the first of April. The business will be carried on in the same manner as heretofore.

GERMAN TECHNICAL AID FOR INDIAN INDUSTRIES

Dr Jariwala, who was a member of the first Technical Mission which visited postwar Germany, speaking at a meeting in Bombay on April 5 said that detailed and valuable reports in German industrial and technical achievement which would be of immense value to India's industrial development had reached Delhi, but unfortunately not made the best use of by the present Government. Dr Jariwala said that although the proportion of German reparations allowed to India was as low as 29 per cent much valuable material in the shape of plant and technical aid could be obtained from war ravaged Germany.

In respect of German technicians Dr Jariwala said, during the Technical Mission's tour in Germany, he had come across highly skilled technicians who were willing to go to foreign countries on remunerations that were half of those demanded by English technicians and quarter of those demanded by Americans. But negotiations with German technicians could not be placed in the hands of the Government of India. Unofficial industrial delegations should conduct them, he said.

Mr A D Shroff who presided said that the Government of India had circulated comprehensive data regarding plant and machinery available in Germany. But industrialists in India were hesitant in buying them without initial inspection of the actual equipment. He suggested that German patents and secret processes should be made available to India.

GOVT GRANT TO KARNATAKA SANGH

The Government of Bombay have intimated to Mr Venkataramayya Secretary of the Karnataka Charkha Sangh Hubli sanctioning a grant of Rs 1,30,000 for the expenses and a loan of Rs 61,000 to the Karnataka Charkha Sangh for extension of handspinning as a relief measure in the scarcity areas of Belgaum, Bijapur and Dharwar districts.

SUBSIDY TO CULTIVATORS

Grants have been given by the Centre to the Provinces for the construction of wells and a large number of them have already been completed. A subsidy of 50 per cent will now also be given to any cultivator who undertakes to dig a tubewell in his village. The subsidy will be shared between the Government of India and the Provinces.

This announcement was made by the Honble Sir Jogendra Singh Member for Agriculture at the Central Food Advisory Council meeting on April 5.

Government had also decided, he added to set up a Central Groundwater Section to tap sub soil resources. Government were able to secure the advice of Mr Roscoe Moss an American expert. He and Sir William Stampe Irrigation Adviser to the Government of India, had recently toured various parts of the country and drawn up a plan to carry out boring operations. All machinery for the purpose had been purchased from the U S A.

Sir Jogendra Singh said that total acreage under principal foodgrains had increased by over 13 million acres during the triennium ended 1944-45. Over 2 million acres of culturable waste and 0.3 million acres of fallow land had been brought under cultivation. He pointed out that there were practical difficulties in bringing large tracts of culturable waste under the plough e.g., lack of irrigation facilities, tractors and manure. But he expected that much progress would be made during the next 12 months and hoped that in a few years India would be self sufficient in the matter of food production.

STEPS TO INCREASE MILK PRODUCTION

Under the Grow More Food scheme, the Government of India have, it is learnt made some monetary allotments to the Provinces for encouraging and increasing the production of milk. According to the terms of allotment, the Central Government will bear 50 per cent of the cost of any approved scheme.

GOVT GRANT TO INDIAN LABOUR FEDERATION

Scrutiny of accounts submitted by the Indian Federation of Labour to the Government of India for audit on account of the grant of Rs 13 000 that Mr M N Roy has been getting every month for labour propaganda indicates that the main heads under which the accounts have been shown as distributed are pay of propagandists, travelling expenses, printing charges, meetings and demonstrations and dissemination of news

In response to criticisms made from time to time in the Central Assembly the Labour Member to the Government of India had promised that the accounts after audit would be placed before the Central Assembly Accounts from June 1944 to July 1945 are now available and these show that on the average nearly Rs 5 000 are spent every month on the pay of propagandists. Average monthly expenses under different heads and travelling expenses is approximately Rs 800, printing charges Rs 3 000, meetings and demonstrations Rs 3 500 and dissemination of news Rs 800 per month

TRAINING IN U K FOR LABOUR ADMINISTRATION

The Government of India have drawn up a provisional scheme for the training of personnel under the Ministry of Labour and National Service in the United Kingdom for labour administration in the post war period. As an experimental measure the Government of India proposed to send three batches of 20 officers each of which eight will be from the Provincial Governments and the Central Government. The period of training would be about six to eight months for each course. The Government of India were informed that the Madras Government would depute three officers. The estimated cost of the training of these officers including passage, travelling allowances, subsistence allowance, outfit allowance and cost of the substitutes etc., is approximately Rs 20 100

SIR S V RAMAMURTI ON THE FOOD PROBLEM

Sir S V Ramamurti, adviser, Govt of Madras who was one of the members of the recent Food delegation to U K and U S, said in the course of a broadcast talk

"Indeed, what India needs to establish and maintain the strength of Indians so that they may take their due place in the social, political and economic life of the world is food. India plus food equals a first class power. India is like a dehydrated fruit from which the juice has been removed. Restore it and all the mature human quality which India has developed during 3000 years of her life will re-establish itself. India then will make its contribution to maintain world peace and sustain world progress. There can be no doubt that the resources of India give scope not only to provide food and work for her people but also articles which she can exchange with others as a good neighbour. May the energy that will be evoked to meet the crisis this year go on to establish India as a free and beneficently powerful member among the comity of nations!"

INDIAN INFORMATION SERVICE FOR BRITAIN

It is proposed to establish an information service which would cater for National Indian News as well provide a liaison between the British people and the Government of India through articles and films. This was revealed by Sir Samuel Runganadan, High Commissioner for India.

Sir Samuel added "We hope that this service will be started in the near future. I personally feel that it is desirable that we should have more news about India in this country, for there is a lack of this news in British newspapers."

MR PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM

Mr Oppenheim who has passed away in his 88th year was one of the most prolific authors in the whole history of English literature. He wrote over a hundred novels all of an exciting, glamorous type, with a touch of piquant mysteriousness.

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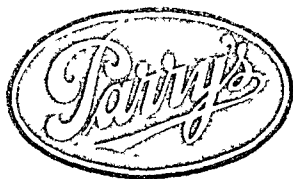
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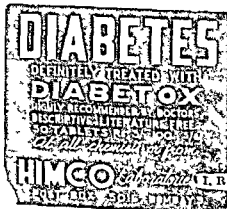
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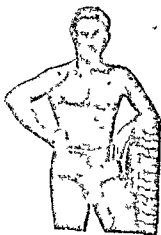
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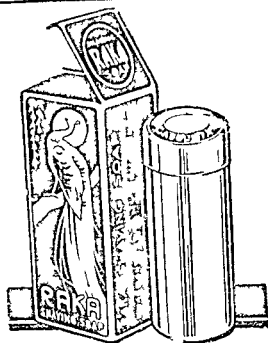
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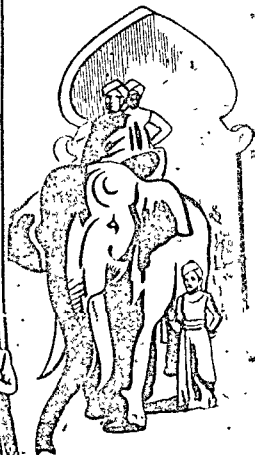
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THE MAN AND HIS MISSION

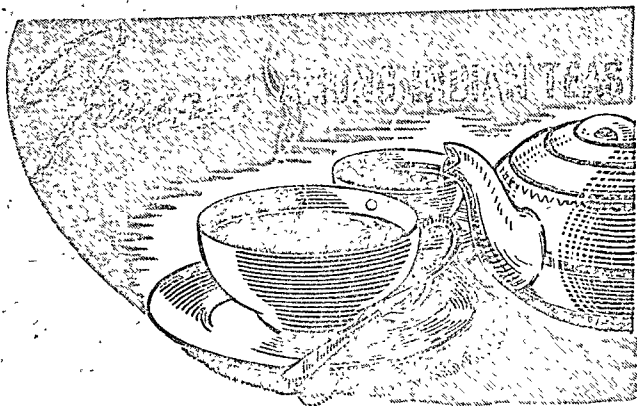
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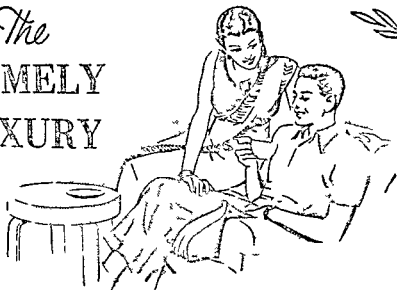
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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[No. 5.]

THE RT. HON. SRINIVASA SASTRI*

By Mr G A NATESAN

o

ON this melancholy occasion it is not my intention to give you a biographical much less a critical account of the remarkable

career of the great soul that has passed away from our midst

It is difficult to add to the glowing tributes that have been

paid to the distinguished services which the late Rt

Hon Srinivasa Sastri has rendered to the

country Sastri was by all accounts one

of the greatest orators of our time By

his eloquence and statesmanship he

brought name and fame to our country

abroad As Agent General to the

Government of India in South Africa

and as a member of the Imperial Conference and other international gatherings

he typified the best traditions of our culture and civilization Like Gandhiji before him he laboured to put India definitely on the map

of the world and win for her her rightful place in the

comity of nations At home he was a

member of more than one Legislature

Provincial and Imperial and he served on many

important committees and commissions

As a member of the Servants of India

Society and as a worthy successor of

its honoured President Gokhale Sastri

added not a little to the prestige of

that great institution

We in Madras know how in the days of his retirement he spent himself as it were in a

critical study of our great epic the Ramayana and to those of us who have had the privilege

of listening to his discourses, his beautiful

* Adapted from an address delivered as Chairman of the Memorial Meeting at Lakshmapuram Young Men's Indian Association, Madras

delineation of the great and outstanding characters of the *Ramayana* and the emotion with which he described some of the incidents, are unforgettable

It has been suggested, that having regard to my friendship with Sastri for over half a century, I should utilise this occasion to give a personal touch and refer to incidents in Sastri's life which the public may not know. I shall therefore confine myself to such incidents which bring out in marked relief his outstanding characteristics

I owe many valuable things to my late brother G. A. Vaidyaraman. Not the least of them is my friendship with Sastri. Our friendship, as Sastri himself has said more than once publicly, has been an object of envy to many. That friendship continued uninterrupted to the last. In the nineties of the last century we shared the same house in Triplicane for a long time and I had early opportunities of discovering his superior merits, his innate goodness and greatness. In many fields of public activity I have worked with him—in the Madras Mahajana Sabha, in the Madras Provincial Congress Committee of those days, in the Indian South African League, in the Madras Teachers' Guild, in the Senate of the Madras University and in the Council of State. In all these bodies, he made his mark by the quiet and unostentatious manner in which he rendered useful service.

In those days, it was common knowledge that many a member of the Local and Imperial Legislative Councils and many a public worker, used to indent on Mr Sastri for help in the preparation of speeches and addresses and in presenting memoranda

before various Commissions. I remember on one occasion telling him jocularly that he had been preparing memoranda for so many for an important Royal Commission that I doubted if he could have anything original or very useful to say when the turn came for giving his own evidence before that body.

It is well known that when I founded the *Indian Review* in 1900, the late Mr K. B. Ramanatha Iyer and Sastri were my main bulwarks. Mr Sastri toiled hard for the *Review* continuously for two years and though his formal connection ceased, his interest in the *Review* never flagged, and from time to time, on many a topical subject I could almost count on his valued contributions which my readers seldom failed to appreciate. Indeed, till very recently, I used to indent on his services, whenever the occasion demanded a special plea from his pen. Only the other day, a few weeks before his death, he took the trouble to expand his thoughtful broadcast on "Books that have influenced me"—an article which, I learn, has had a profound influence on readers of the *Indian Review*.

Sastri was a model teacher, taking a great deal of interest in his calling. Like his Guru, Gokhale, he took a personal interest in the welfare of his pupils. As the Headmaster of the Hindu High School, Triplicane, he gave to that institution a new tone and earned for it the name of a model institution. Quite as one would expect, Mr Sastri had a high conception of the dignity of the teacher's profession, and he did everything in his power to instil in his colleagues a love for their calling. He always stood up, and on

several occasions bravely indeed, for the cause of the teacher and for the dignity of the Headmaster I remember very well, on one occasion he could not possibly agree with the decision of the Managing Committee of his institution and therefore tendered his resignation. When I heard of the resignation I asked him how he was going to face the world with a large family depending on him. The answer came straight "I will prove to the Managing Committee that I am at least capable of starving." Such was his strength of conviction and his readiness to make sacrifices for it.

Sastri was very keen on fighting for the rights of the schoolmaster. When years ago the Madras Government issued an order forbidding teachers from taking part in politics Sastri entered a public protest and he with other influential educationists succeeded in getting the order cancelled.

And here I may mention, that though his own resources were meagre and he had to maintain a large family and to educate his brothers and nephews out of his own slender income, he did it all ungrudgingly. In this he was an example to others. Many a poor pupil and occasionally a needy colleague enjoyed the benefit of his generosity. On one occasion he got into hot water with his father for not handing over to him the full amount of his salary as the Headmaster of the Hindu High School. A needy colleague had applied to him for help on the day he drew his pay and Sastri had given him a bit of his salary. The father who had to manage the household and make both ends meet, naturally was annoyed, and

Sastri had to use all his tact in averting a domestic broil.

In fact Sastri's passion for a dedicated life was expressing itself in these diverse ways.

The immediate circumstances that led to his joining the Servants of India Society have been recounted by Sastri himself on more than one occasion. Sometime in the autumn of 1905 I happened to give him a number of papers, cuttings and speeches of Mr Gokhale who was to preside at the Benares Session of the Indian National Congress that year, and to request him to write a sketch of Mr Gokhale. Along with the papers, I handed over a copy of the prospectus of the Servants of India Society. Mr Gokhale's noble example of public life and his sacrifices and the need of the Servants of India Society as an organization of a band of selfless workers, seem to have made such a profound impression on Mr Sastri, that he straight way wrote to Mr Gokhale requesting to be admitted as a member of the Society. No one else knew of it. Later, when he consulted his friends, the late Mr V. Krishnaswami Ayyar told him that he would not give his opinion one way or the other, and it was a matter for Mr Sastri himself to decide. I do not mind publicly avowing now that I was one of those who warned Mr Sastri of the risk he was running and of the possible consequences to his future and his family. I can never forget the reply he gave me. "Natesan, I have enough trouble and worry at home, my mother and my wife are constantly dissuading me from this step, please do not add to my worry, I have deliberately taken this step because it has been a call

to me ' No wonder, when the news of his resignation of the Herdmastership of the Hindu High School and his joining the Servants of India Society was known to the public there was a regular chorus of admiration for what in those days was justly described as an act of renunciation.

On the great work that he has done for the Society and how he proved himself a worthy successor of Gokhale it is hardly necessary for me to dwell. I may permit myself however to narrate one or two more incidents which bring out in strong relief his determination to honour the chief vow which every member of the Society has to take and that is not to earn money for himself. Sastri would not accept a salaried appointment. When Mr. Montague the then Secretary of State for India pressed him to accept a seat on the India Council Mr. Sastri was firm in refusing it. It was on the same score that he hesitated to accept the Agent Generalship of South Africa. And it required all Mr. Gandhi's persuasion to make him accept this position in the spirit of pure public service. And Sastri made over to the Society the balance of his salary after meeting his immediate personal needs which indeed were not much.

According to the regulations of the Society, Sastri was to have taken month after month the amount he spent on the education of his son. Gokhale's attention was drawn to the fact that Sastri had not drawn anything in this connection. Sastri when asked about this is said to have replied that he was managing it otherwise as he felt it was not fair to charge that infant institution with the burden of

educating his son. And even when warned by Gokhale that he would place the other members in a delicate position Sastri was firm in his decision not to avail himself of the the opportunity afforded.

Another rule of the Society is that no member could earn anything for himself and if he does in any official or non official capacity, he is bound to make it over to the Society. Mr. Sastri who was a member of many a Government of India Committee and of more than one Royal Commission and of many delegations outside India was the recipient of handsome allowances. He was scrupulous in crediting all surplus money to the Society. And those like myself who are regarded as Associates of the Society and have an opportunity of studying its annual reports and budgets know how often its deficits were made up by such credits as these.

Perhaps this is the occasion to mention that twice he declined the title of KCSI offered to him. Like his master Gokhale he chose to remain a commoner.

Sastri was always generous in his gifts to servants and I remember occasions when he showed his meticulous regard for their susceptibilities. Not only did he reward them prodigally but he was known to be habitually so uniformly courteous in his dealings that they deemed it a pleasure to be of service to him.

A man of keen sensibilities Sastri had always the courage of his convictions. At the instance of the Madras Hindu Association of which the late Mr. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar was the President and I the Secretary, he was asked to write an essay advocating marriage after puberty. Sastri's

treasure on that subject was considered a classic in those days and during the time of the Sarada Act, it was greatly in requisition. Mr Sastri, having written a brochure felt it his duty to put into practice what he had preached and it was no secret in those days that his daughter Rukmini was betrothed after she had attained age. Mr Sastri was an advocate of widow remarriage and he attended more than one function and participated in dinners which brought him some trouble at home. That was not all. When in 1915 Mr Gandhi came to Madras and I had the honour of having him as my guest much to my surprise he brought with him a panchama boy to my house. Fresh from South Africa he was not aware of the conditions of social life in India. South in those days. With great difficulty my mother had to be managed and my brother and I allowed the panchama boy to stay in my house. Mr Gandhi who quickly realised the nature of this storm in the tea pot asked me to cancel the visit that he was to have made the next day to Sastri's house in Triplicane as he thought that he had caused enough pain to my mother and he would not repeat it to Sastri's mother. I told this to Sastri. His answer was emphatic. Natesan, if your mother much sterner than mine can reconcile herself to that my mother would easily do so. Furthermore I must tell you it is one of the vows we as members of the Society have taken that we shall not observe caste distinctions and that we should dine freely with all irrespective of caste or creed. So let Mr Gandhi go over to my house as arranged. Gandhiji kept the engagement.

Sastri was essentially a man of courage. The story is told and we have it on the authority of Dr Pattabhi Sitaramayya who wrote about it in his *Jaimbhumi* that on the Poona railway station platform years ago as they were returning from a Congress Session a number of people were squatting, some lying with their luggage waiting for the train to arrive. Two or three soldiers were strolling up and down. Sastri found one of them kicking an Indian who was sleeping using his luggage as his pillow. Sastri's rage knew no bounds he rushed up and accosted the soldier with words like these: 'You scoundrel how dare you kick that poor Indian?' The soldier was dumbfounded and his comrades quietly pulled him away from the scene.

In all his public career Mr Sastri displayed independence of a high order. His speeches were bold and pointed. In exposing the faults of the bureaucracy, he did not mince his words. Though he was often known as a Moderate yet those who knew him intimately could say without contradiction that he was really an extremist at heart. If in the course of some of his great speeches and orations he weighed his words and spoke with deliberate caution it was due to the scrupulous care which he always took not to offend the susceptibilities of any one or in the slightest degree damage the cause which he had been asked to represent. He was ever bold but never reckless in the use of his language. He could never stoop to play to the gallery.

No temptation would ever make him deviate from the path of duty. Here is another incident to which I can bear.

testimony, and that happened in Lord Chelmsford's regime

The story of the Jallianwallah Bagh massacre and the atrocities of the Martial Law Administration in those days had plunged the whole country into deep indignation. And so at the Amritsar Session of the Indian National Congress a resolution for the recall of Lord Chelmsford had been tabled. On his way to Amritsar at one of the railway stations near it Mr Sastri found an important member of the Viceroy's Council entering his compartment and in the course of conversation, the visitor suggested and later implored Mr Sastri to raise his powerful voice against the contemplated censure on Lord Chelmsford. But Mr Sastri had only one answer to give and that was 'No'. It is well known that on account of this refusal, Mr Sastri was passed over when a vacancy next occurred in the Viceroy's Executive Council.

Indeed it is the way with the foreign bureaucracy to pass over patriotic men who cannot easily fit into their scheme of things.

At the First Round Table Conference held in London, Sastri expressed himself strongly in favour of giving India what was long overdue—Home Rule, full Dominion Status. It is well known that he advocated the right of secession also. Mr Churchill in his great campaign against India addressing his party meetings mentioned this as one of the grounds for opposing Home Rule to India.

Sir Samuel Hoare who felt that Sastri had been so troublesome to him would not think of having him again for the subse-

quent Round Table Conference. The reason publicly given was solicitude for Sastri's health. But everybody knew it was merely an attempt to eliminate inconvenient men. About the same time the Presidentship of the Council of State was offered to him, which he had no hesitation in declining.

During the last two years Mr Sastri was agitated over the question of Pakistan, and he wrote and spoke strongly against any attempt to break up the fundamental unity of India. He did not like CR's scheme to appease Mr Jinnah and the intransigents and he made no secret of his attitude. Nor did he approve of Gandhiji's agreement with CR's proposal. He took a definite stand against disruption of the country in any fashion. But Sastri was habitually tolerant, and though he differed from Mr Rajagopalachariar on this point he expressed his conviction that CR should be brought back as the leader of the Province.

Sastri was indeed so consumed with thoughts of the country and so anxious about its future that one could say that even during his prolonged illness, he was ever musing by day and dreaming by night of the freedom of India and its unity.

I should like in conclusion to stress what I consider the essential greatness of the man from my long and close friendship with him. His spirit of independence and his desire to act up to his convictions in spite of protests and entreaties even from those near and dear to him have been the outstanding features of Mr Sastri's life. Mr Sastri never hesitated to give expression to what he felt as the right thing to do even on occasions when public feeling ran high and passions were roused to an undesirable degree.

We do not often come across in our public life many men of Mr Sastri's calibre so sincere and upright. He leaves behind him as Trevelyan said of Macaulay 'a great and honourable name, and the memory of a life every action of which was as clear and transparent as his own sentences'.

THE CABINET MISSION'S PROPOSALS

THE British Delegation, consisting of top ranking members of the British Cabinet, came to India about the middle of March, and for two months have had protracted negotiations with the leaders of political parties in this country with a view to find an agreed solution of the Indian problem. Having failed to effect an agreement between the leading political parties in this country they have adumbrated their own proposals for the future constitution of India. The statement issued simultaneously from New Delhi and London, envisages plans for the immediate formation of an Interim Government, arrangements to summon a constituent assembly and proposals for an All India Union and grouping of Provinces.

It will be recalled that the Delegation was charged with the responsibility for implementing the Prime Minister's pledge in the House of Commons on March 15.

My colleagues are going to India with the intention of using their utmost endeavours to help her to attain her freedom as speedily and fully as possible. What form of Government is to replace the present regime is for India to decide but our desire is to help her to set up forth with the machinery for making that decision.

I hope that India and her people may elect to remain within the British Commonwealth. I am certain that they will find great advantages in doing so.

But if she does so elect it must be by her own free will. The British Commonwealth and Empire is not bound together by chains of external compulsion. It is a free association of free peoples. If, on the other hand, she elects for independence in our view she has a right to do so. It will be for us to help to make the transition as smooth and easy as possible.

The statement reviews the efforts of the Delegation to bring the two major parties in India together, the failure of the Simla Conference to bring about a settlement and examines at length the Muslim League demand for Pakistan. The Delegation's conclusion is a categorical rejection of the Muslim League's claim for a partition of India and the creation of two separate sovereign States.

THE NEW PLAN

The new plan which the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy have announced with the full approval of the British Government contains the following six points.

Firstly, there should be a Union of India embodying both British India and the States, which should deal with Foreign Affairs, Defence and Communications and should have the power necessary to raise the finance required for the administration of these subjects.

Secondly, the Union should have an executive and a legislature constituted from British Indian and State representatives. Any question raising a major constitutional issue in the legislature should require for its decision a majority of the representatives present and voting of each of the two major communities as well as a majority of all members present and voting.

Thirdly, all subjects other than Union subjects and all residuary powers should vest in the Provinces.

Fourthly, the States should retain all subjects and powers other than those ceded to the Union.

Fifthly, the Provinces should be free to form Groups, with executives and legislatures, and each Group could determine the Provincial subjects to be taken in common.

Sixthly, the constitutions of the Union and of the Groups should contain a provision whereby any Province could, by a majority vote of its legislative assembly, call for a reconsideration of the terms of the constitution after an initial period of ten years and at ten yearly intervals thereafter.

THE CONSTITUTION MAKING BODY

As regards the constitution making body, they state that the only practicable course is to utilise the recently elected Provincial Legislative Assemblies as electing bodies. After careful consideration the Mission think that the fairest and most practical scheme would be this.

Firstly to allot to each province a total number of seats proportional to its population roughly in the ratio of one to a million as the nearest substitute for representation by adult suffrage.

Secondly, to divide this provincial allocation of seats between the main communities in each Province in proportion to their population.

Thirdly, to provide that the representatives allocated to each community in a province shall be elected by members of that community in its Legislative Assembly.

Representatives thus chosen shall meet in New Delhi as soon as possible. The Viceroy will at once request Provincial Legislatures to proceed with the election of the

representatives and the States to set up a Negotiations Committee

It will be necessary to negotiate a treaty between the Union Constituent Assembly and the United Kingdom to provide for certain matters arising from transfer of power

ALL INDIAN INTERIM GOVERNMENT

While this constitution making is going on, the administration of India has to be continued. Great importance is therefore attached to the setting up at once of an Interim Government having the support of the major political parties

Already the Viceroy has started negotiations to this end and hopes soon to form an Interim Government in which all the portfolios including that of the War Member will be held by Indian leaders having the full confidence of the people

INDIA SECRETARY'S BROADCAST

Broadcasting from the New Delhi Station of All India Radio Lord Pethick Lawrence, Secretary of State for India explained the Cabinet Mission's proposals for a new constitution for India and appealed to 'Indians of all parties to take part in framing a constitution' "We have done and we will continue to do," he said, "all that lies in our power to help Indians to overcome the difficulties" which confront them in their task. For, said Lord Lawrence,

the future of India and how that future is inaugurated are matters of vital importance not only to India herself but to the whole world.

If a great new sovereign state can come into being, in a spirit of mutual goodwill both within and without India that or itself will be an outstanding contribution to world stability. The Government and people of Britain are not only willing they are anxious to play their full part in achieving this result.

Lord Lawrence was definite on the Pakistan issue.

While we recognise the reality of the fear of the Muslim League that in a purely Unitary India their community, with its own culture and way of life, might be some submerged in a majority Hindu rule, we do not accept the setting up of a separate Muslim sovereign State as a solution of the communal problem

"Pakistan", as the Muslim League would call their State, would not consist solely of Muslims, it would contain a substantial minority of other communities, which would average over 40 per cent and in certain wide areas would even constitute a majority, as for instance in the City of Calcutta where the Muslims form less than one third of the population. Moreover, the complete separation of Pakistan from the rest of India would, in our view, gravely endanger the defence of the whole country by splitting the Army into two and by preventing that defence in depth which is essential in modern war. We, therefore, do not suggest the adoption of this proposal.

CRIPPS' WARNING AGAINST REJECTION

Addressing a Press Conference soon after the Secretary of State's Broadcast, Sir Stafford Cripps warned that there would be no more parleys.

We have done in this statement what we believe to be best after two months of discussion and very hard work and in the light of all we have heard and studied. We do not intend to start all the negotiations over again. We intend to get on with the job on the lines we have laid down. If the plan is not accepted no one can say how great will be the disturbance, or how acute and long the suffering that will be self-inflicted on the Indian people.

Thus Sir Stafford's statement that no more negotiations would be permitted on the Cabinet Mission's statement, made it clear that it was definitely an award, however much the Mission might have emphasised that they merely recommended some particular principle for formulating a constitution.

It is too soon to judge the exact reaction of the various parties to the plan proposed by His Majesty's government. But the categorical rejection of the Pakistan seems to have been received with unfeigned satisfaction by all sections of the people except, of course, the Muslim Leaguers. The division of India into three groups is regarded as a sop to the Muslim League, which obtains the two zones which it had asked for in its Lahore Resolution but they have been brought under the authority of the Union Centre. The principle of self-determination is introduced in the provision enabling the provinces to opt themselves out of their respective group.

THE FOOD PROBLEM

By MR J N CHAKRAVARTY IAS

THE call of famine has come again. The shadow of the Bengal famine has hardly disappeared, the memory of the fifty millions dead is yet green, but the call has come again, not only for Bengal, but this time for the whole of India, now for half of Europe and Asia.

The reaction of the Government to the present crisis presents however a pleasant contrast from that on the last occasion. When in 1943 the newspapers in a chorus were crying hoarse for remedial measures and even the streets of Calcutta were strewn with the dead, the Govt of Bengal refused to declare famine. The Governor of Bengal, and even the Viceroy assured the public that there was enough food in the country. The result is well known. The skeletons of fifty million dead bear testimony.

On the present occasion, as soon as the possibility of a famine was pointed out in the Press, it was admitted on the floor of the Central Assembly as well as by the Viceroy himself. India's Ambassador, Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar, flew immediately to Washington accompanied by Sir Nazimuddin of Bengal. They have appealed in the most eloquent terms to President Truman as well as before the UNRA. They have declared most unequivocally the chaos which will result, not only in India, but throughout the world, unless India's immediate minimum needs are fulfilled and millions are allowed to die of starvation, which will otherwise be the inevitable result. Let us hope their moving appeal will bear fruit although the reports dribbling in are not quite reassuring. Government, however, has not stopped with this. They have been asking the co-oper-

ation of the public through the Press and the radio. The Viceroy himself has met the Presidents of the Congress and the Muslim League, and his private Secretary has paid several flying visits to the Mahatma. Those who are acquainted with the past methods of Government will be rather surprised at all this activity. They will wonder whether all this indicates a real change of spirit or just a passing phase. To quote what I wrote about a year ago in connection with the Bengal famine: "One hopes that the interest is not just a passing phase, the latest hobby, but has come to stay and the urban population, the Government as well as the intelligentsia, will not sink back to snug complacency, once the present crisis passes by. The famine will not then have been all in vain. Or, the next crisis will come as a cyclone without warning, uprooting all moorings and carrying everything before it, beyond the possibility of repair."

Sir S V Ramamurti, the Food adviser to the Government of Madras, and a member of the Mudaliar Mission has stated in a recent article in the *Washington Post*, "In the Famine of 1943 in Bengal it was the poor people, voiceless shiftless people, who suffered. Now the people who face death belong to all ranks of the population: vocal and intelligent people. They will not die easily and as food supplies fail they will bring down the whole fabric of administration and life in India." The Cabinet Mission has already arrived. Those who will die are not restricted to Bengal: inarticulate mass and will not die without being heard. Let us hope these

are not the only causes of the present solicitude, but the interest is real and permanent

Orders are being passed in most provinces tightening up the rationing and reducing the cereal quota to six ounces per day. This may suffice for old dyspeptics like us, but what about the working class and the growing adolescents? The small mercy shown to heavy manual workers will not suffice. The public are entitled to know what steps the Government took since the last Bengal famine to increase food production in the country before reducing rations and going about the world with begging bowls. The Government appointed, at enormous cost, the Woodhead Commission, including some of the country's foremost experts to enquire about the Bengal famine, and they have submitted a voluminous report. How far have their recommendations, been implemented? Mr. Hossain Imam has stated in the floor of the Council of State that no serious attempt has been made to translate their recommendations to action. One famine has succeeded another, but we need not be surprised if the Secretariat, the ultimate arbiter of India's destiny, have not yet finished their noting on the report.

The Grow More Food Campaign was started nearly four years ago. Numerous officers on high salaries have been appointed in this connection in all Provinces—with what result? There is no sign of increased availability of food stuff or a reduction in price. In a recent statement Sir J. P. Srivastava has harped on the old plea of difficulty of transport arrangements. Sir Jogendra Singh, Member

in charge of Agriculture, stated that as a result of better distribution of seed alone at a cost of nearly Rupees Five crores the annual production of food crops will be increased by nearly 700,000 tons. This is excellent. But when is the man in the street going to enjoy its benefit? It will be little solace to him if he finds that in spite of all this there is a further cut in his already meagre ration. The Secretary of Agriculture to the Government of Bengal in a recent Press Conference described the various measures taken by the Government towards this object. Most of them are good in their way. But the public will again ask, when will they see the actual result? What had the Government been doing since the last famine? If the present state of affairs is in spite of the Government efforts they will have little faith in these measures. In his report Sir John Russell, the famous British agricultural expert stated in 1937, 'The new selections and varieties which represent the achievements of Indian Agricultural Science are only used to a very limited extent. The ryot continues largely unaffected by the numerous efforts made on his behalf.' One suspects there has been no radical change in the approach of the Government to the cultivator since then and wonders how far the excellent measures described in such glowing terms will actually reach the cultivator. Will they remain confined as before within the experiment stations of the Government or reach the actual fields?

In the article referred to above Sir Ramamurti has stated that India wanted 1,000,000 tons of rice and 3,000,000 tons of wheat and millets. It appears from the

figures published in Dr Burns' "Technological Development of India" that the acreage of rice in British India in 1942-43 was 70 000 000 acres

The outturn was however only 8.8 mds per acre. It appears from some recently published figures in the *Globe* magazine that Australia obtained in 1944 an outturn of 75 000 tons of rice from 40 495 acres or nearly 50 mds per acre. Not to speak of 50 mds, if India's per acre yield of rice could be increased even up to 13 mds India's problem would be almost solved. From the results of experiments cited by Dr Burns (formerly Commissioner of Agriculture with the Government of India) this does not appear to be very difficult to achieve. Sir P. M. Kharegaht, Secretary to the Government of India, Education, Health and Lands, and a former Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agriculture, who was largely responsible for formulating the Post War Reconstruction scheme of the Council, stated in a public lecture about a year ago that the food production of India could be doubled within fifteen years provided certain conditions were fulfilled. Neither Sir P. M. Kharegaht, a Parsee, nor Dr Burns, a Scotchman, can be dubbed as visionaries or political agitators. Famine is neither a new nor an unexpected phenomenon in India. There were 31 major famines during the nineteenth century with a death roll of 32.4 millions. In fact failure of rains every three or four years is a normal incident in India. Why cannot effective measures be taken to guard against a normal feature of India's weather? It is frequently stated that under Pax Britannica India does not suffer death from

Wars. But is death from starvation so very much preferable to death in a battlefield? It will not however serve much useful purpose to criticise Government alone. Every citizen has a duty when death threatens his brother. We must do all that may lie within our capacity limited though it may be. The Government as well as our leaders have asked for the co-operation for the common man and it must be forthcoming without stint. We must not be dismayed by the magnitude of the problem. There are various ways in which we can all help. Growing vegetables in our homeland is the quickest and surest. Better care of animals is no less sure and efficacious and is particularly valuable as it will increase the food ingredient of children. Rearing of a few poultry will cost little. Fruit growing, though a long term proposition should not be neglected. There are also various methods of improved cooking which will lead to a substantial reduction in wastage. All these will effect a considerable increase and conservation in our food supply. The zero hour is on us and no one must fail.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for review should be addressed to Mr G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T. Madras.

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES

By MR KANWAR JOGINDRA SINGH, MA, FRCS.

WITH the publication of the Central Budget for 1946-47 the question of India's sterling balances has again become the front page news in our newspapers and financial journals. On the floor of the Central Legislature the question is being discussed as one of the most important political issues of the day particularly in connection with the interim report of the Select Committee on the Bretton Woods Agreements. In public discussion the question has frequently been linked with India's adherence to the above Agreements and the Dollar Pool arrangement owing probably to the fact that all the monetary plans so far propounded envisaged the possibility of the utilisation of the post war international monetary machinery to facilitate its final solution. As the problem is yet to be decided and as it is not possible to say when negotiations for its settlement will take place it is easy to understand the present anxiety of those who think that the liquidation of Sterling Debt is intimately bound up with India's economic rehabilitation and that the country's economic interests will be seriously jeopardised if the matter is not settled up immediately. It appears that the time is opportune for tackling the question once for all since in view of what Sir Archibald states in his budget speech about sterling balances, circumstances are such that during the course of the next financial year there may not be any further additions to the sterling credit. Like a wise creditor we may, therefore, pause for a moment, scan the entire problem from the purely economic view point giving least concession to sentiments and see what

is best for our interest and how it can be achieved without any further delay.

There is a great deal of misunderstanding about the nature of India's sterling balances and how they have accumulated. Out of various contradictory views put forward on the subject we may take note of two views expressed by responsible quarters. One is the view that has been put forward by Indian nationalists that these balances represent the blood and toil and the sweat and the tears of the people of India. Illustrative of this view is the remark by Mr Abdur Rahman Siddiqi (Muslim League) during the recent discussions in the Central Assembly that the sterling balances represented a positive 'loot' by Britain from the poorest people of India. The other view given expression to by some in India and many in England is that the balances are a windfall. As a corollary to this is the view that the debt may be wiped off and may not be paid, it may be repudiated. This latter view is 'born out of the suggestions of some economic experts who suggest that sterling debts should be written off since they are all war debts consisting of money spent in the prosecution of a common war. Looking from an economic angle we have to dissent from all these extreme views. We take it for granted that the sterling balances will be paid and under the terms of the Anglo-American Loan Agreement the problem of payment will be tackled as an early task. We also take for granted that as stated by Sir A. Rowlands in his Budget Speech 'India will be entirely free to take any line that she may see fit to pursue at the

negotiations (with Britain for payment) and any idea that she is committed in advance to a scaling down of the balances or to a continuance of arrangements under which such balances will continue to accrue is entirely without foundation' The only question worth considering from our view point therefore is how our sterling debts should be paid.

Before demanding payment of debts India, as creditor should know the present financial position of her debtor It should be borne in mind that Britain has to pay not only to this country but to many other countries as will appear from the following table

AREA	Million pounds outstanding on 30th June 1946
Dominions	354
India, Burma & Middle East	14
Other sterling area countries	7
North & South America	11
Europe (including possessions)	1
Rest of world	1
Total Liability	388

Besides the above external liabilities Britain has to face huge a deficit in her balance of payments Assuming that the price level of exports (fob) and import (cif) will be about double the prewar level in terms of sterling the deficit in 1946 balance of payments is estimated at something like £750 Million and by 1950 the cumulative deficit is likely to be £1250 Million or more As the loan agreed to be given by the U.S. Government can only provide a small set off against the above deficit it is clear that in spite of what has been said in Article 10 of the Financial Agreement of December 6 1945 in respect of the release of sterling balances it will not be possible for Britain to clear off her sterling liabilities

in a manner agreeable to her creditors who are clamouring for a very early repayment In the circumstances it is idle to think of an immediate return of our sterling credits since even if it could be supposed that the whole of the accumulated balances of £3355 Million as shown above will be dealt with in a series of comprehensive settlements, executed with quite unbelievable speed, some portion of the balances would have to be released between now and 1951 (*Economist* December 15 1946) In doing so although Britain will be taking upon herself an inconceivably heavy financial burden it is doubtful whether her creditors will agree to accept a long term release of their debts We have therefore, to find out sources by which Britain can meet her sterling liabilities *in a timely and speedy*

In principle there are but four ways by which Britain can arrange to meet her external liabilities—by earning, spending less borrowing using up exchange reserves Despite losses and dislocation forced upon the British economy by the war we believe that Britain can earn more by increasing her exports by at least 50 per cent above her prewar volume The country can also spend less by a slack in the import programme and so far as the borrowing is concerned although further credits from U.S.A. are inconceivable financial aid, by loan or grant can surely be expected to come from the Dominions Regarding exchange reserves she has got a source of help in Bretton Woods Fund which is available to members for capital movements Now with ways of payment in view the next step is to enter into negotiations with all

the creditors and, as the largest creditor should be approached first, India holds a priority for repayment of her sterling debt.

India's total holding of the sterling will be about £1330 Million by 31st March, 1946. For purpose of repayment the entire holding should be treated as a commercial debt, as it is the result of services and goods taken by Britain during the war at a low price forced down by the control. As the bilateral Anglo Indian agreement on repayment will essentially have to be on the basis of goods not money, it is essential that India should be able to absorb the maximum available exports from Britain. In doing so India's objective should be to get whatever possible from Great Britain so long as the sterling balances are at the credit. It should however be possible for the Government of India to order what goods should be imported into this country without allowing any dumping on the part of U.K. Therefore, the first plank of negotiations should be the total Indian needs of capital goods and the second plank should be divided into firstly, what proportion of the total must essentially be provided from the sterling sources, secondly, what proportion should be provided from the dollar sources and thirdly when British and United States manufacturing resources are complementary — what proportion can be best provided under a triangular arrangement. Much has been said about the nature of capital goods that are urgently required by India for restoration of her war shattered machinery and for a well planned industrial development. In the light of India's demand

voiced forth from time to time by India's industrialists and economists, Britain should be able to tell what type of capital goods she will be able to export under the arrangements. Economically, the possibility of India's importing some consumers goods should not be absolutely ruled out as in the interest of the country's industrial progress, we ought not to concentrate wholly and solely or exclusively on merely importing capital goods. That was the mistake which Russia committed and for which its people paid severe penalties. Moreover, as already pointed out in case India desires to have a full repayment of her credit she must be ready to accept all what her debtor can offer. This, however, does not mean importation of that kind of consumers goods which will militate against the existing industrial capacity of the country. In this connection it may be noted that since other sterling creditors will also like to have their debts repaid as early as possible by means of export to them, India should not rely too much on Britain's exports which, even if they are well buttressed by other sources mentioned above, may not be able to meet the liabilities of repayments each year. She should ask Britain to repay yearly at least £100 Million in dollars for a period of five or six years to enable her to import some much needed industrial machinery from America and other hard currency countries. For this purpose Britain can utilize not only her assets in USA (which according to Dr. Harry White's testimony before the American Senate Banking Committee amount to 3500 Million dollars) but also draw upon the Bretton Woods Fund.

We have briefly discussed the economic aspect of Indian sterling interest *vis a vis* Britain so that, in any forthcoming negotiations, India's claim for repayment is no longer postponed or trifled with. While British policy about sterling balances is simply in a vacuum India's attitude is clear, namely, firstly she wants negotiations as early as possible, and, secondly, she wants no negotiations for scaling them

down. Since sterling debt forms the most important asset for the future development of the country its payment should be regarded by Britain as one of her sacred obligations. We have shown that Britain has power to pay and if she willingly proceeds to negotiate payment India will receive with gratitude the money which she has earned with untold privations.

Nationalisation of Transport in Great Britain

BY MR G S KHOSLA, M.A.

SOON after the Labour Government came into power in Great Britain, it made the important announcement that it was going to nationalise the country's major public utility undertakings, *viz.*, railways, long distance road hauliers, canals, docks and harbours. This announcement should have brought to an end an age old controversy but like the temporary signs of revival in a dying man there is a new spurt of argument and heated debate over "Private Enterprise" *versus* "Nationalisation".

As these two phrases and several other allied terms are often used in a loose fashion, it will be worth while to clarify their meaning. In November, 1945, "The Railway Stockholder" published an interesting article in the course of which its author, Mr Richard Thomas, attempts to define "Nationalisation", "Public Ownership", "Socialisation", and "Private Enterprise". Putting the last first, "Private Enterprise" presents the least difficulties. It implies the activity of a group (or groups) of persons who band together financially to promote some trade or industry from

which to gain a return from the money they invest in it. "Nationalisation" implies that an industry or service becomes the property of the nation which undertakes its administration as a Department of State. "Public Ownership" implies ownership by the general public, but beyond that point nothing about it seems to be settled. "Socialisation" hitherto undefined, would appear to be the same as "Nationalisation". To illustrate the meaning of these terms, a good example of complete "Nationalisation" in this country is the Indian Posts and Telegraph Department, being entirely state owned and operated. The Railways in India, at any rate the bulk of them, are also state owned and operated, but the fact of their having separate accounts and not being financed from the general State funds does not qualify them as an example of perfect "Nationalisation".

In spite of the railways in India being state owned and state-controlled, the development in Great Britain are of more than academic interest to us, because it is by

now amply clear that the shape which the state organisation for the management of transport undertakings in Great Britain is going to take, will be materially different from the arrangements here. This organisation may influence the proposals in regard to the constitution of a Federal Railway Authority contained in the Government of India Act 1935. Again, the steps which are likely to be taken in Great Britain towards the co-ordination of inland transport as a preliminary to nationalisation are bound to be of immense value and interest to us in this country where opinion on the Government of India's rail road co-ordination policy is so divided.

State control over British Railways is not a new thing. During war time the main line Railway Companies largely surrendered their authority to Government who exercised detailed supervision over the working of the railways. In World War I, the principal railways accepted the position of working agencies while His Majesty's Government guaranteed to them their net pre war income and made use of their services for the purpose of conducting the war. During World War II, the Government of the four main line Railway Companies and the London Passenger Transport Board entered into an agreement according to which the Government made to the controlled undertakings a fixed annual payment in exchange for unfettered control over their day to day working. This was "Nationalisation" but in a form slightly different from the ordinary conception of 'nationalisation'. While companies accepted it in wartime, they are determined

to resist it tooth and nail under conditions of peace.

Let us turn over the pages of the British Press to see for ourselves some of the highlights of the controversy. We are familiar with a common method of imparting instructions in the form of do's and don'ts. The Conservative (and Unionist) Party of Great Britain has relied on a similar technique for the propagation of their opposition to the Government's 'nationalisation' plans. In a recent issue of the *News Review*, which describes itself as The "First British" *News Magazine* the Party has declared that 'Nationalisation' means —

- More red tape
- More bureaucrats
- More playing for safety
- More delays in getting decisions taken
- More intrusions of party politics into industry
- More temptations to politicians to buy votes
- More lemons on all of us to make up losses
- More monopolies
- Less efficiency
- Less freedom
- Less collective bargaining
- Less readiness to try new ways
- Less encouragement of personal initiative
- Less chance of good wages and promotion
- Less incentive to avoid waste and extravagance
- Less protection for the consumer

The frantic and nervous propaganda has a family likeness to the opposition that was raised against the construction of railways in Great Britain 120 years ago. At that time many vested interests were threatened by the coming of railways such as the interests of Land owners, of Stockholders of Coaching Companies and also of Canal and Turnpike interests just as the interests of the Stockholders of Railway Companies are threatened now. The late Sir George Findlay, who was General Manager of the London & North Western Railway, thus described the opposition

"Every weapon that the prejudice and narrow mindedness of the many or the alarmed avarice of the few whose interests were threatened by the impending change, could devise was brought to bear without scruple, even to the length of personal abuse and calumny levelled against the promoters. The most absurd statements were gravely put forward and believed in, the smoke of the engines would kill the birds, cattle would be terrified, and cows would cease to give their milk, the sparks from the engine would set fire to the houses and manufactories on the line of route, the race of horses would become extinct, and many other direful consequences would ensue, amidst which the absolute ruin of the country would shrink to the insignificance of a detail! The first surveys had to be accomplished in many causes by stealth and were in more cases, resisted to the extent of the employment of armed force."

The above is the method of approach of the politician. The Railway Companies and the road haulier have naturally struck a less ostentatious and more business like line. They feared that the effect on the future commercial and industrial life of the country of preoccupation of this kind by the Government at this time may be adverse. The road hauliers, have been more vocal in their protests against nationalisation than railway companies. The Road Haulage Association and the British Road Federation, Ltd., have prepared a case against the government scheme. The Industry maintains that there is no case for the nationalisation of an Industry which is not a monopoly, is efficiently conducted, has excellent relations with its labour, gives its customers a square deal, is already largely controlled by Government regulations, and does not require a subsidy from public funds for its further development. The standard of road haulage operation under the Government, wartime, did not, it is pointed out, begin to compete with the efficiency of the haulier owned organisations it took over, either in general efficiency, detailed control, speedy movement, return loads, or flexibility.

The Government have so far published plans for the nationalisation of coal industry, air service and the Bank of England. Of these, the plans for the Bank of England are widely known, but not so for the other two. For coal industry, the Government has set up a National Coal Board of nine persons which is to have complete operational freedom for the day to day control of the industry. Some 850 colliery undertakings are to be taken over, and a compensation tribunal will assess the value of the coal assets. The compensation payable is to be ascertained separately in respect of the assets of the coal industry as defined for the purpose of the district wages ascertaining regulating wages, and all other assets transferred to the Board.

For the air services, the government have set up a number of corporations. "Each of the proposed corporations would be managed by its own board and its capital will be provided entirely by the Government." The Minister of Civil Aviation is to make all appointments to the boards, the public will be able to make representations concerning fares, rates and adequacy of services. International agreement will be sought to eliminate all forms of subsidy. It is recognised, however that some measure of State aid may be necessary to support essential but unremunerative services, assistance will be by way of deficiency grants. After the initial period, assistance from the Exchequer will be by a system of agreed estimates of costs and revenues subject to annual review. Transport air fields are required to be acquired and managed by the Ministry on the grounds

that many air fields developed during the war have been developed at the expense of public funds, that the present and projected types of air craft involve heavy outlay on air fields, and that "the revenue from landing fees would in most cases be insufficient to meet outgoings and State aid would be necessary

It is expected that the organisation for railways and the long distance road hauliers will be on the same line as those for the coal industry and air services. This was clearly indicated by Mr Herbert Morrison in a recent speech in Canada in the course of which he said that the British Government would not follow a precise model. In general the nationalised industries would not be managed by State departments or civil servants. Public corporations would be set up in charge of boards composed of men, appointed because they are qualified to do a technical job with efficiency, imagination and enterprise in the public interest. The general basis of selection would be on the lines of the Coal Bill. The Government's reasons for nationalisation are well known the chief among these being that they have a mandate from the overwhelming majority of the electorate that the country's major industries should be owned and managed by the state. The attitude of the Government was ably summed up by Mr E S Sharpnell Smith in a lecture delivered recently to the Institute of Transport. This attitude had four main underlying principles. First the national stability of railways was of primary national importance, secondly regulations and taxation affecting road transport must conform to the first principle, but equally

to the national interest, that voluntary steps to consolidate road transport interests must be hastened by direction, and that an early limit must be set to voluntary efforts to coordinate alternative means of, and facilities for inland transport. Another important consideration, which could be added to these is, that free private enterprise, under the capitalistic system tends sooner or later, to develop into combines, closed to new entrants, and these are usually worked for the benefit of a few at the expense of the many. This danger can be avoided under ownership and management by a democratic state. The position, therefore, boils down to Nationalisation or Monopoly.

BEAUTY IN ALL THINGS

By

MR MICHAEL DERARCHE

The poetry of earth is never dead
Though spring by austere winter husbanded
Lies loveless in a dark and narrow bed
O not alone in summer a serenade
Of nightingales or autumn a rich brocade
Of bronze and crimson is the magic made
Beauty abides in more than daffodils
Speaks in the hollow solitude that fills
The silence of the everlasting hills
And lives in silver rain and luminous mist
Investing streets the centuries have kissed
Old, dream drenched streets with Beauty's
 eucharist
And ever where dead lovers' feet have trod
Who walked the ways of earth with heaven shod
Echoes the name of love, the name of God

John O Lenfon

Capitalistic Vs. Gandhian Method of Production

BY MR A V KRISHNAMURTHY, M A ,

THE essential features of the Capitalistic system are stated by G D, H Cole as follows — "Its distinguishing features are, first and foremost, the direction of productive effort by large scale business organisations, owned by a multitude of private individuals the vast mass of whom play no part at all in the active conduct of the enterprise in which their money is invested, add, secondly, the existence of a huge class of labourers who work for a wage or salary and have, as such, no part in the ownership either of the instruments with which they work, or of the goods which they help to produce This divorce between the functions of labour and ownership is the most characteristic mark of the modern capitalistic organisation

The typical form of capitalistic structure in modern business is the joint stock Company in which usually many share holders contribute to provide capital for the carrying on of an enterprise employing wage labour In modern capitalistic method of production there is not only divorcity between labour and ownership but also between management and ownership The manager of modern business is not an owner, but an employee

The share holder in modern industry holds shares in a large number of business undertakings so that he can avoid the risks of business He is, therefore, not able to take active part in the detailed working of the firm Although the ownership of the industry tends to be widely diffused, its control therefore, tends to be closely concentrated

Another feature of modern capitalistic method of productions is the tendency for the different firms to come under a single control "There is further concentration through the method of interlocking directorates, which often link up several big companies into a group following common policy, and there are holding companies, whose sole function is to unify the policy and pool the profits of a number of nominally separate businesses under their control Concerns of this sort shade off into trusts, combines cartels and other forms of trading associations covering an even wider field and bringing about varying degrees of unification over whole trades or classes of production'

The worker in a capitalistic industry has no powers or rights in the conduct of industry Even an organised Trade Union helps the worker only to have a negative authority a power to veto or hamper the policy of the management

The main motive of modern business organised on capitalistic method is profit, and not the satisfaction of the wants of the consumer 'Wants which cannot clothe themselves in money are left undeducted and unsatisfied, and the luxurious fancies of the rich exert a stronger pull on the productive resources of the community than the stark needs of the poor' There is lot of waste in advertisements which are organised to expand sales

It is also to be pointed out in this connection that a lot of social disadvantages have arisen on account of factory system of production Although there are the advantages of the division of labour in

large scale production, it has certainly deterred social and spiritual progress. There is further lack of variety in work. The workers are made to follow a ceaseless repetition of more or less monotonous and soul destroying job. "The latest and the most logical extension of the factory system Scientific Management—aims avowedly at taking from the workman the last vestiges of responsibility for and control over his work."

The capitalistic method of production thus concentrates the control in a few hands, Gandhian method on the other hand tends to decentralise control. 'The centre of power is now in New Delhi or in Calcutta and Bombay. I would have it distributed among the seven hundred thousand villages of India,' says Gandhiji.

The capitalistic method of production presupposes the availability of plenty of accumulated capital, and it adopts labour saving devices. But the Gandhian method is based on the fact that, in India, there is plenty of labour, but scarcity of capital. The system, therefore, "advocates methods of production which involve little or no capital, and for which raw materials and a ready local market for finished products are easily available."

Unlike the capitalistic method which aims at concentrating wealth in the hands of the few, the Gandhian method aims at distributing wealth among the masses. In capitalism under which prices are sought to be low so that profits may be high the least expense is on labour, while the bulk is for overhead charges, sale organisations and materials. But a great part of the money spent on the cottage industry goes towards payment of

wages. High prices of cottage industries thus tend to distribute the national wealth on an equitable basis and thereby contribute largely to the welfare of the people.

The Capitalistic method seeks to keep the results of experiments as secrets, whereas the Gandhian scheme strives to disseminate such knowledge to the producers by means of exhibitions.

In a planned economy for India, the relative merits of the capitalistic method and the Gandhian method of production are to be properly weighed, and which ever is best suited for the country should be adopted. When the other countries are following the capitalistic method which produces goods by leaps and bounds, India cannot afford to follow a method which cannot cope up with the competition of the foreigner. At the same time the bitter experiences of the western people who embarked on capitalism should not be lost sight of.

The latest developments in the source of power have paved the way for decentralisation of industries. Hydro electric power, which can easily be spread throughout the length and breadth of the country, can be made available at the doors of the villager. Small machines driven by electric power can now compete on terms of equal efficiency with the big plant and the giant factory. The advantages of large scale production can also be achieved through industrial co-operation. This shows that the Gandhian Scheme, which is based on the social, cultural, and economic background of the country, can be adopted to our best advantage.

LIFE IN OUR SCHOOLS

BY MR JAGESHWAR NIGAM

LIFE in our schools in India is so bad that it requires a thorough change and the sooner it is introduced the better it is for the future of India. The whole system of education is defective as it forces on our children things which are neither interesting nor valuable. The result is that they unnecessarily load the little mind with a burden which the poor child finds too much for him to carry. And then without making him interested in his little world, the educational curriculum and the unhomely surroundings bore him like anything and thus he loses all taste for real knowledge. He goes to the school not because he gets there a gay atmosphere or that he wants to gain knowledge but because he is told by his parents that if he does not get educated he will practically starve. This has the worst influence on the mind of the child since he feels that he is doing this hard business only to make his both ends meet. So this education is fast making tens of thousands of our youngmen poor clerks who lose all charm for their life and waste their genius in the dirty atmosphere at their desks.

The thing that has the most pernicious influence on the mind of the child and which as a matter of fact makes him dull is that he is forced to learn a foreign language on the first day of his school life. When a child goes to the school he begins to learn it not knowing why this worship is forced on him. He goes on reading these sermons daily and regularly and becomes a daily church goer, till he

attains a young age when this labour and worship tires him without favour and fastens him to a poor and cheap employment and in most cases not even this. He is down tools though he worked unceasingly, attended the prayers daily and gave his all to the noble cause of higher studies. How funny and foolish is this worship? With what ambitions we flock about to learn this foreign language as if it were our own. We are forced to love this language, we are asked to be loyal to it and throw our own like an old shoe—a shoe which took all hits over its toe and all thorns—under its heels without and saved the feet from all damage.

When the foreign medium of instruction holds true, the medium of expression must be the same and so in our daily life we see that we suffer for want of thought and expression. The longer we are taught to give our all to a foreign language the weaker would be our powers of expression and judgment. The manner in which we talk, the way in which we look at the things and even the mode of our living are greatly affected by this. Our art, our literature, and our civilization have none the less been suffered. This is a great damage to the country. A country which was proud of her art and her culture, which contributed generously to the world civilization and learning and which was a centre of all things beautiful and lovely, has lost all her past glory and chivalry and every thing that she could rightly boast of.

Now consider the educational curriculum. The choice of books and the various courses prescribed in our schools do not

sufficiently contribute to the formation of the national character in our students. The books on history and geography do not tell our children of our glorious past and the resources of our country. They only tell them the accounts of things and events which are dead and gone and that too in the most uninteresting manner. The knowledge of civics, economics and other social sciences is nil up to the High School standard, with the result that things of general knowledge are beyond them and they can hardly think in terms of nationalism and internationalism. And then to complete the tragedy their teachers insist on cramming and they instruct their students to reproduce to the letter every thing that they read. To illustrate I refer to 'Our India' by Sjt Minoo Masani. Such books as this and others which speak of our glorious men and women and luckily their number is not small, can make our outlook broad and our education national and liberal. This I feel to be highly valuable. The education which does not make our young men national-minded is useless and the sooner there is an end of it the better.

Next in our schools we lack the healthy homely atmosphere. The school should be a second home for the children and they should not feel as if they were in a prison. Our schools are many rooms erected one after another without a single picture on the walls. The walls are all coloured white but in most cases they are dirty. The furniture is old and mostly second hand, and the seating arrangement is most untidy. Things go because they have to

get going. There is no life. It is all monotonous. Students are never taught to make their class rooms look decent, clean and tidy. The pictures and diagrams which can make the class rooms beautiful and decent are never drawn by students or teachers. Flowers and gardens are rarely seen in our schools. The best decoration can be by flowers and we can get plenty of them in India. Flowers are God's greatest gift to man but if we can make a good use of them, they can make our life worth living. The education of Nature of which Wordsworth spoke so much, can easily be given in India if our teachers take their students for nature study in the country side. Nature study gardens should be a feature of every school in India and the students should be given precise knowledge in gardening and fruit growing. Fortunately our schools have big compounds and we can easily turn them into beautiful gardens. Gardening is a healthy exercise and is as good for girls as for boys.

Then our schools must encourage excursions and holidaying along with their teachers. This would of course help them a lot in learning many things by themselves and this will make their life really happy.

Finally our education is not self sufficient. It is much too expensive and is not within the reach of an average man. India is poor and so it is all the more necessary that education here should be as cheap as possible. The state must come to the rescue of the poor and must see that they are not left illiterate only because they are born poor.

WOMAN IN THE SOVIET UNION

By WAHIDA AZIZ

THE Soviet Power has effected a radical change in the status of women. They have not only gained political but also economic equality. It has opened up to them all professions and all trades and at the same time has guaranteed them an equal wage—the same pay as men for the same work when Lenin issued the slogan 'Every kitchen maid must learn to govern the state' it became one of the most urgent tasks of the Soviets to draw into political life all—even the most backward—of the vast masses of women.

Work in the government departments, work in institutes and business organisations, work on the fields and in industrial enterprises, work everywhere became the universal school in which the new Soviet woman was educated. She began to feel herself in every respect a full and equal member of society. Since the days of storm and stress a new generation of women moulded by the pattern of their patriotic predecessors has come into being—a generation which is now waging a heroic struggle against all invaders.

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

Active participation in public administrative work is only one of the countless forms in which the new social and political activity of Soviet women finds expression. The trade unions, which occupy a position of tremendous importance in the political life of the country, include about 10 000 000 women among their members.

The rapid growth of collective farming has provided women with unlimited opportunities for developing their executive and organisational abilities. Tens of thousands

of women have taken over the leadership of collective farms and of collective farm brigades and work teams.

The gates of the world of labour have likewise been flung open to women and they have been quick to avail themselves of their new opportunities of their political achievements and of the general transformation of their mode of life. Speaking of the necessity of drawing the entire people both men and women, Lenin declared 'This work begun by the Soviets can be advanced only when instead of hundreds of women we have millions and millions of women all over Russia taking part in it.'

VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS

As a result of the gigantic growth of industry and agriculture more than 30 000 000, women it is estimated, are taking part in the work of building up the Soviet state. According to the law at present in force the 8 hour working day is established throughout the country. Every year women, as well as men receive a fortnight's vacation with pay. If a woman is prevented from going to work by illness, accident or the necessity of looking after some sick member of her family, she receives compensation from the social insurance funds.

In common with all working people women are entitled to every form of free medical assistance provided by an ample network of dispensaries, clinics and hospitals, general and special sanatoriums and convalescent homes. Much care is given to the question of maternity in the Soviet Union. All working women are entitled to special vacations during childbirth. Soviet law forbids the dismissal of weak women.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By AN INDIAN JOURNALIST "

The late Bhulabhai Desai

ONLY last month we had to mourn the death of the Rt. Hon Sastri. Yet another patriot and great Parliamentarian has passed away in the death of Mr Bhulabhai Desai. Alike by training and equipment Bhulabhai towered over all his colleagues in his flair for tackling legal and constitutional issues. Ill health prevented him from making his invaluable contribution to the tripartite talks now going on at Simla. And now death closes a career of remarkable brilliance and devotion to the cause of the country.

It was the heroism and travail of Bardoli that brought to public life men like Shri Bhulabhai Desai and Gandhiji on hearing the sad news. He might otherwise have remained a distinguished Government servant and ended his career as a Judge of the Bombay High Court. He reached the heights of fame when his forensic talents resulted in the release of the I N A prisoners.

Indeed Bhulabhai's versatility and the quiet and unobtrusive way he did his bit for the country have endeared him to all ranks. Bhulabhai made a great name for himself as leader of the Bombay Bar, but it was soon to be eclipsed by his brilliant debut in the Central Legislature. It was inevitable that he should succeed to the leadership of the Assembly after Pandit Motilal's death, and he fully sustained the tradition by his eloquence and sagacity. As a member of the working Committee he shared the trials and tribulations of leading Congressmen. But on his release he set about the delicate task of negotiations with courage and earnestness to which C R rightly attributes the present more hopeful posture of affairs.

His silent and modest work relieved political tension and brought about a great change in the atmosphere last year and made possible what is now going on and all the hopes and expectations associated with it.

For a time he was out of the lime light but his hour struck when the government launched the I N A trials and Congress decided to summon Bhulabhai to defend the accused in the first Court Martial. His defence of the I N A officers was the dazzling climax of his legal career, demonstrating his deep grasp of law, his lucidity of exposition, and his impressive advocacy which evoked the admiration of the entire nation. As Major Gen Shah Nawaz truly observed

"After the surrender of the Azad Hind Force there was a period when everything looked dark for us. We were in danger of being condemned by our countrymen and by the world at large for being Japanese puppets. It was at this time that Mr Bhulabhai Desai stood up and defended the honour of India and the honour of Netaji Subhas Bose. Mr Desai was a life in which he lived for India and died for India."

Indeed Bhulabhai's final arguments in the I N A Court Martial in respect of the rights of subject peoples constitute a document of profoundest value in the development of political thought.

The Viceroy's Council

As we go to press comes this welcome announcement.

The Members of the Executive Council including His Excellency the Commander in Chief have placed their respective portfolios at the disposal of His Majesty the King and of His Excellency the Viceroy in order to facilitate the arrangements which the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy are seeking to make.

We are told that the announcement about the Executive Council does not mean immediate resignation of the members. They have been asked and have agreed to continue in charge of their portfolios for the time being, but will be ready to leave as soon as a new Council is announced. Even so the announcement is doubly welcome as it gives certain indication of the success of the move for an interim Government at the centre, to which the country has been looking forward as the first step in resolving the deadlock that has persisted far too long. We hope this first step will lead to the success of the British Cabinet's mission in India. We await the outcome of the Simla negotiations with keen interest.

Railwaymen's Strike Notice

The General Council of the All India Railwaymen's Federation, representing a million Railway workers throughout India, have decided after a secret all India ballot, to give the Government of India notice on June 1 that Railwaymen on all Indian Railways, including those of the Indian States, will go on strike on June 27, unless their demands are conceded by that date.

The Council which met in Bombay has appointed a Committee of Action, consisting of sixteen members to draw up a strike programme, if a strike became inevitable.

The strike ballots on the different Railways have demonstrated the readiness of over 90 per cent of Railway workers to go on strike when the call comes. So the threat of strike is no bluff but a grim reality with which the country will be faced if government do not rise to the occasion and set things right.

Now the grievances of the Railwaymen have been before the public for a long time past and the Railway Board does not seem to have acted either promptly or fairly. Nor has government's intervention in the matter been either timely or adequate. The demands of the Railwaymen in respect of revision of wages, retrenchment adequate dearness allowance leave rules and hours of work are by no means inordinate. Their services always essential, have been particularly so, during the stress of war time. Government, in recognising their validity, should have faced the situation squarely and done the right thing by them. Instead they have merely referred certain minor items to an Adjudicator. Railwaymen, advised by the Congress President and others, have refrained from any precipitate action. It

is up to the Government to widen the terms of the Adjudicator and satisfy the workers that their grievances will receive just consideration. Apart from anything else the utmost vigilance is needed in maintaining transport facilities during the food crisis in the coming months. Government should therefore act swiftly and justly to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Railwaymen's claims.

The I. N. A. Trials

We welcome Government's decision to drop the I. N. A. trials. Indeed they should not have launched on the wasteful and protracted trials at all. In the very first trials the late Mr. Bhulabhai had knocked the bottom out of the charge of treason. The defence arguments and the evidence in their support made it plain that the officers and men alike were moved by patriotic motives. It is possible to hold the view that they were ill advised in having any truck with the enemy. But the extenuating circumstances were strong in their favour. Whatever the original charges, conditions in the country no longer warrant the continuance of the trials. And Government have done well to drop them.

Now that the trials have been dropped, Government should not spoil the grace of their action by continued pin pricks on the released men. There is no meaning in releasing them only to be baited by the Secret Police. It is hoped that their release will mean to them the enjoyment of full freedom and the rights of free citizenship without molestation from the subordinate executive.

The South African Delegation

The public of Madras, in meeting assembled under the presidentship of the Mayor, extended a hearty welcome to Mr Christopher and Mr Naidoo, members of the South African Delegation who are now in this country in connection with their fight with the Union Government for the rights of our countrymen over there. The meeting made it plain, if proofs were necessary, that there is no Indian to day who does not fully sympathise with the position of our countrymen in South Africa.

For over half a century, South African Indians have been fighting for the elementary rights of citizenship. It is nothing but a tragedy that the treatment of Indians by the whites in South Africa which was justly described years ago as an imperial scandal should now culminate in a legislation calculated to harass ruin and finally drive them out of South Africa. The Ghetto Bill has now passed all stages in the Union Legislature and no doubt will be rushed through the Senate with official backing in spite of Senator, Bissner's warning. Our protests and what little we could do by way of retaliation have had no effect on South African intransigence. If M. Smuts continues to indulge in high sounding platitudes at Imperial and International gatherings but he has not lifted his little finger in defence of justice or fairplay in his own country. The delegation insists on exhausting all constitutional methods and is even prepared to break relations with South Africa, if it comes to that. Now, whatever they may decide to do, our countrymen in South Africa may rest assured of our fullest backing.

The New Congress President

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has been elected President of the next annual session of the Indian National Congress, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Acharya Kripalani having withdrawn from the contest.

Thrice President of the Congress, Pandit Nehru is the first to be honoured with a fourth term. He occupied the Congress gadi first in 1929, then in 1936 and again in 1937.

It is no light responsibility that Pandit Nehru is shouldering. For Maulana Azad has, during his unprecedentedly long and strenuous term set a standard of statesmanship which it is difficult to surpass. During his hectic period of office he has weathered many a storm with a patience and dignity, with such energy and patriotic zeal that might well baffle other leaders. The Maulana's choice which has been endorsed by the Congress could not have fallen on a worthier or more deserving colleague.

The Sind Debacle

There is something radically wrong with Sind politics. This new province cut out of Bombay, has never had a stable government for any appreciable length of time. But that is not the worst. Personal intrigue and shameful deals have marked the fortunes of most of its Ministries.

What is one to think of the action of Mir Bundehal Khan, the rebel and one time renegade of the Muslim League who has changed sides more often than his shirts. He supported the Coalition to defeat the League ministry. A few hours later he was wooed and won by Sir Ghulam Hidayatullah and made a fifth member of the Cabinet and the Governor was a party to this outrageous procedure. Was there ever such a farce played any where in the world? Such adventurers seem to thrive in the desert soil of Sind!

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Mr. Attlee on Importance of UNO

THE political and economic problems which afflict the world could not be solved by any one country, but only by the co operation of all, the British Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, told a May Day Rally of the Labour Party in London

"We believe every nation must work out its own salvation," said Mr Attlee, adding that the Government's aim was to establish conditions in Europe so that every country could decide on its own form of Government.

"I am profoundly convinced that only through the full development of the United Nations Organisation and the real acceptance of the objectives and principles set out in its Charter can we avoid another world war"

The Prime Minister also stressed the need for the economic well being of all and reiterated the socialist principle of 'Brotherhood of Man'

British Policy in Egypt

By a majority of 169, the House of Commons endorsed the British Government's proposal to withdraw all its armed forces from Egypt as a preliminary to further negotiations for revision of the Anglo Egyptian Treaty after a debate on Mr Attlee's statement made earlier

The announcement by Mr Clement Attlee, the British Prime Minister, of the Government's plan for withdrawal provoked a vigorous reaction from the Conservative Opposition in the House of Commons For the first time in the life of the present Parliament, the Opposition succeeded in moving an adjournment on a "definite matter of urgent public importance."

Trial of Japanese War Lords

27 Japanese war leaders were tried on charges of war crimes by the seven Judges of the International Tribunal at Tokyo on May 6 All the 27 defendants pleaded not guilty to the charges that they had plunged Asia into war. General Tojo, the Premier at the time of Pearl Harbour and one of the accused, said in a clear voice "On all counts, I plead not guilty" Most of the others simply said "not guilty", as their names were called

After taking the pleas, the War Crimes Tribunal set June 3 as the date for the beginning of the trial

Italian Reparations

The Four-Power Foreign Ministers meeting in Paris have again failed to reach agreement on Italian reparations, one of the most important stumbling blocks in the entire discussions

"All the four ministers are understood to have agreed that the armistice terms with Italy should be revised as soon as possible but when the terms of the Italian reparations came up a deadlock was reached on the Russian claims for £75 000,000 from Italy The Soviet Foreign Minister, M Molotov, repeated his demand for this sum, making it clear that this was the minimum demand for compensation for Yugoslavia and Greece and damages in south Russia"

Italian King Abdicates

King Victor Emmanuel signed his abdication at midday, on May 9

The King and his Queen boarded an Italian cruiser in Naples harbour and left Italy the same night escorted by two destroyers

Palestine Committee Report

The Anglo American Committee on Palestine issued a unanimous report recommending that 100 000 Jews be permitted to enter Palestine this year if possible, that the Government of Palestine be continued under the present mandate until a Trusteeship agreement is executed under the United Nations and that the existing land transfer regulations be replaced by others based on the policy of freedom in the sale, lease or use of land irrespective of race, community or creed

The Committee declared that Palestine must eventually become a State which guards the rights and interests of Muslims, Jews and Christians alike

The mandatory or trustee it said should proclaim the principle that Arab Economic Education and Political Advancement in Palestine is of equal importance with that of the Jews

Until the Trusteeship agreement has been made, Palestine should be administered according to the Mandate which declares that 'the administration of Palestine while ensuring the rights and position of other sections of the population are not prepared shall facilitate Jewish immigration under suitable conditions

The report runs to many thousands of words of which the recommendations alone total nearly 5 000 and covers the historical past, the present and the future possibilities of Palestine

Arab Reaction to Palestine Report

Tension in the 'Arab world is increasing. A demand that the recommendations of the Anglo American Committee on Palestine be abandoned and a threat that all Arabs in Palestine will begin their war immediately, if their demand is not accepted—these are the main features of an ultimatum which the Arab Higher Committee in Palestine is reported to have presented to the British High Commissioner

Asked if the seven Arab States of the Arab league in Egypt would join the Arabs in Palestine, the secretary of the League Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha said that they would naturally join 'But we have not yet reached the stage of fighting'

The UNO Deadlock

The abstention of the Russian delegate from the UNO Security Council when that body took up for consideration the issue of evacuation of Soviet forces from Persia has raised questions of the gravest import to the future of the United Nations Organisation. M Gromyko's absence was significantly ostentatious. It had been proclaimed beforehand by members of the Russian delegation that the Soviet representative would neither attend the meeting nor submit any report on the withdrawal of the Soviet forces. Such an action on the part of a member of the Council is undoubtedly one of serious discourtesy to the Organisation. It practically meant open flouting of the Council's authority, an overt repudiation of its jurisdiction over affairs Russian



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

CONGRESS AND THE MASSES by Dr H C Mookerji The Bookhouse Calcutta Rs 4

This is a useful handbook containing a fairly detailed account of what the Congress has attempted to do in the field of constructive work. With the increasing importance all nation building activities are taking on in view of the constitutional changes envisaged the constructive programme of the Congress is coming to have increasing importance. The book covers the Congress policies on the various aspects of the constructive programme that vitally touch the day to day life of the vast millions of the masses of India whose life is left untouched most of the time. It outlines the various constructive activities of the Congress and finally what the Congress Ministries were able to accomplish during their two years tenure of office.

VERDICT ON BRITAIN by Prof J S Bright Dewan's Publications, Lahore (Rs 3 12)

This is one of the numerous replies that Verdict on India by Beverly Nicholas has called forth. That usually happens when a whole country and people are libelled. Mother India gave birth to a crop of similar replies. This book is one such. But as usually happens with such replies the defence becomes as vulgar and cheap as the attack itself. Prof Bright has certainly torn down all his professorial balance, restraint and dignity in writing this book. It is the rambling incoherence of a man who is very angry.

CONSIDERATIONS ON TWENTY FIVE MILLION SOULS OF TRIBAL INDIA AND THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY J N Hazanka Victory Press, 5/2 Wellesley Street Calcutta Rs 2

Dr B R Ambedkar's statement that the Tribals have not yet emerged from their period of tutelage, that educationally they are backward and do not deserve representation on the provincial and Central Legislatures and Cabinets, has drawn forth a spirited protest from Mr J N Hazanka. It is a convincing, well documented pamphlet which should clear much of the misconception prevailing about the capacity and character of the tribals to look after their own affairs and their right to be adequately represented in all statutory bodies.

MAHATMA HANS RAJ Mahatma Kushalchand Anand Arya Pradesika Pratiridhi Sabha Lahore

Among the leaders of the Arya Samaj Mahatma Hans Raj is one of the foremost. With Lajpat Rai the politician, Swami Shraddhananda the great religious preacher and Mahatma Hansraj the great educationalist the Arya Samaj made rapid strides in the Punjab during its early years. This life of Mahatma Hans Raj written in simple Hindi, reveals to us the great qualities of his head and heart of his spirit of sacrifice, simple living and high thinking and the great religious fervour and patriotism that animated his life.

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA By Santosh Kumar Chatterjee The Marwari Association 160 D Chittaranjan Avenue Calcutta Rs 14.

The woes of Indians in South Africa resulting from rank colour prejudice of the ruling authorities are described very vividly in this readable booklet. The author reviews the chequered history and politics of the country and points out the numerous disabilities of Indian settlers the courage with which Gandhiji fought for the rights of Indians and the bitterness and animosity of the South African Imperialist leading to the detestable pegging ordinance enacted by the Government of the Union. He puts forward a noble plea for the abolition of colour bar which alone in his view can ensure equality and justice among the people.

SAYINGS OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD Edited by Muhammad Amin The Lion Press Lahore

Students of comparative religion have found a remarkable similarity in the teachings of the world's prophets east or west. And the sayings of Prophet Muhammad have a universal application. They are as useful and valuable to day as to the people and generation to which he addressed. Mr. Amin has picked up the pearls of the Prophet's teachings and garnered them in this pocket volume with admirable discretion. The book is a praise worthy attempt to make the wisdom of the Prophet more widely known to members of other faiths.

INDIA'S LABOUR WELFARE PROBLEMS D P Ketkar Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Re 1

Mr D P Ketkar with his ten year experience as a Labour Welfare Officer has dealt with India's Labour Welfare problems in their broad outlines. Problem of housing health medical attention recreation hours of work technical training for workers co-operative societies and Labour Unions are some of the outstanding problems affecting labour. This pamphlet will serve as a good introduction for a general understanding of our labour problems.

BOOKS RECEIVED

NO BRIDGE TO HEAVEN A NOVEL By Alfred Wagg & V Wagg Thacker & Co Bombay
SEVENTY TALLS OF TERNOR Susil Gupta Welles Street Calcutta

PICTURE OF A PLAN By Manoo Masani Illustrated by C H G Moorhouse Oxford University Press Bombay

THE LOST WAR RUPES By V K R V Rao (Indian Council of World Affairs) Oxford University Press Bombay

IDEAS HAVE LEGS By Peter Howard Messrs Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN INDIA All India Manufacturers Association Bombay Rs 51

WHY SINGAPORE TELI By Gen H Gordon Bennett Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 714

THE DEATH OF ADOLF HITLER A Play in one Act By D M Bergaonkar M A Holkar College Indore

FAIRY FEET By Beryl Sardan Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 8

RUSSET GOES FISHING By Robbo Barcroft Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 2

ROLLAND AND TAGORE V swabharati Calcutta

SANKARADEVA A STUDY By H B Das Glantz

STARS OF THE LEADER Who leads the future India? A guide to the voters Prof K V Swamy Astrological Society Bezwada Rs 2

BRITISH PROPAGANDA IN AMERICA By Chaman Lal Kitab Malal Allahabad Rs 31

ECONOMICS A TOOL OF DEMOCRACY By Hedley Shepherson Kitab Malal Allahabad Rs 1

DIARY OF THE MONTH

— 0 —

- April 1 Cabinet Ministers meet Gandhiji
— Sir Chandulal Trivedi sworn in as Governor of Orissa
- April 2 Princes delegation meets Cabinet Mission
—Ghetto Bill passes 2nd reading in the S A Union Assembly
- April 3 Cabinet Mission begins talks with Congress
—Hindu Marriage Bill passed by Assembly
- April 4 Provisional agreement reached on Russo—Persian question
—Liberal Federation opposes division of India
- April 5 Minority leaders meet Cabinet Mission
—General Smuts moves three amendments to Indian Bill
- April 6 President Truman outlines Peace Strategy
—Report from Chungking of mass suicides
- April 7 Mr Jinnah addressing League legislators Convention reiterates Pakistan demand
- April 8 Commander in Chief explains Indianisation plan
- April 9 Dr Hugh Dalton presents British budget in the Commons
- April 10 Gandhiji urges abolition of salt tax and release of all politicals
- April 11 Mr Jagat Narain and Dr Lohia released
—Cabinet Mission appeals to all parties for goodwill
- April 12 Congress President advises retention of old Madras team
- April 13 Heavy fighting for Manchurian Capital Communists take all air fields and enter suburbs
- April 14 Persia withdraws case from Security Council
- April 15 Congress President explains new formula to allay Muslim fears
- April 16 Government assurance in the Central Assembly that South African issue will be taken to U N O
- April 17 Commons approve Government motion *re* extension of Section 93 rule in Madras
- April 18 Rt Hon Sastri passes away at his residence in Mylapore
—Madras Congress Legislators reject High Command's advice to elect C R as leader
- April 19 Central Assembly votes 2 crore supplementary grant for UNRRA
- April 20 Franco's Government indicted in the Security Council
—South Indian Journalists' Conference meets in Madras Mr N Raghunathan of the *Hindu* presiding
- April 21 Lord Keynes is dead.
—Bengal Ministry coalition talks fail
- April 22 Mr T Prakasam elected leader of Madras Legislative party by 82 votes to 69 for Mr Muthuranga Mudaliar
- April 23 Congress Ministry in Orissa sworn in to day
—Mr Herbert Hoover arrives in India
- April 24 Members of the Cabinet Mission return to New Delhi from Kashmir
—Hoover meets Gandhi and Nehru
- April 25 Hague discussions on Indonesia Indian wheat quota announced
- April 26 Empire Premiers meet in London Maulana Azad suggests Pandit Nehru for Congress Presidentship
- April 27 Cabinet Mission invites party leaders for joint talks
- April 28 Congress and League nominate their respective teams to the Tripartite Conference
- April 29 Mr T Prakasam meets Governor and submits names of Members of his Cabinet
- April 30 Section 93 revoked in Madras Congress Ministry assumes office in Madras
—Plot to kill McArthur unearthed



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE HERITAGE OF TAMIL LITERATURE

Indian culture is varied in its appeal. And the contribution that the Tamils have made to it is by no means small. Mr. J. Parthasarathi points out in the *New Review* that in literature, philosophy and fine arts like painting, dancing and drama, the South of India has evolved its own unique types. Taking literature alone, the South can boast of perhaps the most ancient poetry, "unsurpassed in its tenderness, pathos and note of heroism".

Love poems, poems of war and court life, epics and tales in verse all of great charm have been handed down to us from the remote past, the achievement of Tamil literature in respect of poetry is thus particularly impressive.

Not only in its traditions of love poetry, later sublimated into a great mystic strain, but also in its numerous epics and tales in verse, Tamil has produced 'literature for all time'.

By the fifth century A.D. longer poems came to be written on the pattern of the Sanskrit *kavyas*; the Jains and the Buddhists have given us many short epics, notable among which are the 'panchakavyas', namely *Silappadikaram*, *Mammalalai*, *Sularani*, *Kalayapati* and *Kunilaikai*. There is also the celebrated *Jivaka Chintamani* of the Jain saint *Tirutakkia Devan*, detailing the life and adventures of the prince *Jivaka* who performed deeds of valour and married princesses wherever he went, but ultimately realised the vanity of all earthly existence. All these poems are bristling with tales, descriptions or reflections. The *Silappadikaram* or *Epic of the Anklet* is the most outstanding of them all. It is a perfectly constructed poem, in its grandeur of style, touching lyrical passages, and general manner of execution, it has some resemblance to Shakespeare's tragedies and Milton's 'Paradise Lost'.

If the Jains and the Buddhists gave us their *Kavyas*, the *Sarvites* and the *Vaishnavites* followed up with their tales in verse. The Age of the Imperial Cholas,

from the tenth to the fourteenth century, witnessed a crop of these poems.

Sekkilar, a court poet of the age, sang of the lives of the Saiva saints in his *Periappuranam*. In its plan and execution, this work reminds us of 'Canterbury Tales', being a collection of narratives of the lives of the Saiva saints. But, of course, in spirit and content, it is intensely religious, and vastly different from Chaucer. *Liliputturar* rendered the tale of the Mahabharata in tuneful, galloping verse. His work was done a little after the period of the great Cholas, yet it belongs to the great *Kavya* tradition started in that age. *Ottakuttar* and *Pujale* it have many attractive smaller poems centering on the personalities of the kings of those days. Perhaps the crown and consummation of the *Kavya* tradition in Tamil is *Kambar's Ramayana* or *Ramavatar*. This is an epic of the story of Rama, the ideal of the perfect man whom every Indian tries to emulate. The poem runs to seven cantos and has all the characteristics of a great literary epic—style, characterization, drama and construction.

It is modelled on the monumental Sanskrit epic of Valmiki, yet it is an independent artistic creation of the author, bearing the stamp of his personality everywhere. In the manner of a true epic, it epitomises the ethical ideals and the codes of conduct of a whole society.

Great literature is the outcome of times of stress and excitement, when life flows along, a full and strong current, now turbulent, and now tranquil. This fact explains why Tamil literature ceased to be creative after the Age of the Cholas.

The stagnation in letters was only a reflection of the stagnation that had set in the life of Tamil India from the fifteenth to the nineteenth century, owing to various political causes. Few cared to lead an intellectual life at a time, when there was neither the favour of the munificent patrons of old, nor the appreciation of a reading public. Only with the dawn of the present century has a new era been ushered in Tamil literature. The call of nationalism, the impact of Western, notably English literature, and the influence of various political movements and ideologies are to-day acting as powerful urges to literary expression. Side by side with the new unrest, the growth of journalism in the Indian languages and the spread of education have contributed to the creation of a new reading public who eagerly await the novels, essays, short stories and translations that are now coming out of the press in large numbers.

U S MEDIATION IN INDIA

Reference to "the widespread sentiment, especially among younger people in America, that Britain's control in India is wholly discreditable," is made by Sir Robert Holland in an article on 'India and American Opinion' in the *Asiatic Review*.

Sir Robert says 'The movement for American mediation in the Indian question is supported by many prominent citizens and influential bodies in the United States. These include members of the extreme Right persons with Leftist or Communist sympathies, quondam Isolationists, religious pacifists who aim at elimination of the colonial system, idealists who would obliterate racial differences in support of universal brotherhood and many others.

They constitute the raw material from which a nation wide impulse could be started and for this reason the India issue now seems likely to become an element and perhaps an exploitable influence, in American domestic politics. The agitation has of course received no official countenance. Celebrated American publicists who have acquired firsthand knowledge of India, have dealt with the problem fairly and dispassionately and have warned the American public against the futility of trying to impose a solution by exhortations addressed to the British or Indian peoples.

'India's political future is a problem of political science which needs to be approached without emotional prejudice and to be studied in the dry light of history with due regard to international relationships and the trend of human development. Issues

are involved which will affect the happiness of a large part of the world's population. Grievous penalties will follow upon mistaken diagnosis or untimely experiment. Mistakes have been committed and wrongs done by the British, but they have led the people of India a long way on the road to nationhood."

THE POET IQBAL—INDIAN

In the *Arjan Path* for April Mr Gurdial Mallik describes Iqbal as a lover of his country as well as of the Divine. A poet, a philosopher and an ardent Muslim. Sir Mahomed Iqbal was also an Indian Patriot. We are told that, in his outlook on life, as in his attitude, Iqbal was an Indian in the long line of this country's lovers of God. "These have all along set greater store by the transmuting touch of divine grace than by their energy or the achievement of their own exertions. And yet their dependence on that grace has not been akin to that of a slave on his master, but similar to a child's love dictated dependence on his parents. Further, this dependence is of a dynamic type, because Love is an active incentive and inspiration, as it is also aspiration.

Be a lover constant in devotion to the beloved
That thou mayst cast thy noose and capture God

Iqbal's ceaseless search was for the Superman, the Divine Man, the man in whom the beauty of love and the love of beauty shine forth in all their splendour. It is the quest of the Brahmin for Brahma. Was it in this spirit that he once referred to himself as 'a man of Brahmin extraction, versed in the mystic knowledge of Rumi and Tabriz'?

MASSES AND THE SPIRIT OF AHIMSA

"My hope is that the masses have sufficiently imbibed the spirit of ahimsa and that when the British go, there may be a little fight here and there and then we shall settle down as brothers giving a lesson of peace to the world" writes Mahatma Gandhi in the *Harijan* replying to a question put to him as to whether it became the teacher of ahimsa to keep silent when rowdiness resulted in severe damage during one of the recent elections in Bombay.

Mahatma Gandhi writes "If the rowdiness is not a forerunner of what the future holds it will be wrong to take note of it. Such sporadic clashes should not worry us. The education of the masses in ahimsa can make way gradually. It may be that it will develop from the lessons learnt from such happenings. But it may be that this rowdiness is symptomatic of an epidemic. Many people imagine that they alone are right and everyone else wrong, and they do not consider that there is anything unworthy in forcing their point of view down others' throats. This error has to be rectified. If we are in the right we must have infinite patience.

'Just now we seem unable to see our own mistakes. Those who lack the faculty of reason, or who desire to live for the sake of enjoyment, can never see the error. If there are many such then we must conclude that our non violence has been a weapon of the weak, himsa masquerading in the guise of ahimsa. If this weakness continues we shall have to go through rivers of blood once the British rule goes

We may even come under the sway of some other foreign power or it may be that with internecine warfare the weaker side will have to submit to the one that has the mightier weapons. If we are unfortunate enough to witness such strife, believers in non violence will joyfully die in the effort to stop it and thereby live."

THE ROAD TO GREATNESS

"I sometimes think—though this goes against much that I wish to believe—that greatness is more likely to be achieved by those who have been solitary and somewhat neglected in childhood than by those who have been surrounded by sympathetic encouragement and all the external materials of happiness" writes Prof. Bertrand Russell in *Picture Post*.

However that may be, the development of herd instinct, when it is carried too far, is certainly detrimental to those who are capable of anything important. "If a community is to produce great men, it must not so educate the young that they lose the capacity of thinking and feeling for themselves. Those whose opinions and emotions are a mere echo of what is prevalent in their social milieu will never be much better or much worse than their neighbours. A certain independence, which need not be driven into the form of rebellion, is a quality of infinite value, which may show itself quite early in childhood. Those who have it, may become great, those who are without it certainly will not. In our regimented age this principle is one that educators must be careful to remember, for we ought not to be content with 'an education that produces a dead level of mediocrity, even if it were blameless mediocrity'."

GANDHI AND NEHRU AS MEN OF LETTERS

Gandhi is a strange elusive personality. A man of many intuitions and a strong mystic sense, he not seldom surprises and baffles, writes Mr P. E. Dustoor in the *Literary Annual*. His spiritual logic can be bewildering.

he refuses to make a fetish of consistency and insists on uttering the truth as he sees it from day to day. Nehru is very different. With him you know exactly where you stand, you are on firm ground. He is clear cut, precise. There is nothing nebulous about his writing, simply because there is nothing nebulous or elusive about the man himself. He is of rationality all compact. Consequently his writings big and small—both the avowedly topical and journalistic and the more deliberate and weighty—provide a body of clearly defined doctrines. The weapons in his dialectic armoury are logic and common sense. Unlike the Mahatma he seems to wield the magic sword of intuition or to shelter behind the broad shield of religious faith.

In one word, it is perhaps no exaggeration to say that Nehru thinks in terms of mankind rather than in terms of men, but Gandhi, first and last and, though not exclusively yet essentially, in terms of men.

But whatever other senses they have or have not in common, one sense they do share—the sense of humour.

I do not think I am wrong in saying that Gandhi's sense of humour finds but occasional and incidental expression in his writings. When reading him you are certainly conscious all the time of being in the company of a good humoured man but that he is also a man possessed of humour is borne in on you only by spasmodic whimsicalities. You are in the midst of a grave plea for nonviolence or a solemn defence of something or the other when you suddenly run into the quizzicality of 'I have been known as a crank, fallist mad man. I evidently the reputation is well deserved. For wherever I go I draw to myself cranks fallist and mad men', or the grotesquery of "A mouse hardly forgives a cat when it allows itself to be torn to pieces by the cat." Frolicsome touches like these are like bubbles on the otherwise placid surface of his writing; they are occasional and they sparkle and glisten while they last. They are not flashes of wit or

lashes of sarcasm. There is nothing of indignation or bitterness about them. In this, particularly, is Gandhi's humour, where it appears in his work, clearly distinguishable from Nehru's. Not only are there passages of sustained humour in the pages of Nehru which cannot be paralleled by anything in those of Gandhi—take for example that piece of sustained sarcasm entitled "A Window on Prison"—but also, as that very piece illustrates so amply, Nehru's humour tends to be sardonic. There is bitterness and discontent smouldering under the superficial levity.

The most memorable passages in Nehru's writings are passages of dignified, rhythmic, wistful prose. He can, when he wishes, write even dramatically convulsive telegraphic phrase.

But his normal literary gait is decorous, and when he is stirred to the depths because he is treating of the hopes of the down trodden, or the indomitable spirit of man, or the grand pageant of history, he bursts into measured, stately, poetic prose.

Nowhere in Gandhi's prose have I found comparable sonority. It is equally restrained and unrheterical. It has on the whole a distinctly staccato effect on ears tuned to the sustained phrases of Nehru's prose. His most characteristic sentences, in fact, are short and they are composed of short, simple words not infrequently monosyllables. His sentences are never very long, and when he would be most meaningful he chooses to be most bare. His short sentences not only penetrate like a dart but by their very brevity quiver in the memory.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

FOOD CRISIS IN INDIA. By A. N. Agarwala [New Horizons, April 1946.]

ANCIENT INDIAN POLITY. By Kalika Prasad Datta, M.A. [Prabuddha Bharata, April 1946.]

BRITAIN'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN INDIA. By Mr. Manu Subedar, M.L.A. [Hindustan Review, March 1946.]

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION IN INDIA. By Prof. Dharm Pal, M.A. [The Calcutta Review, April 1946.]

INDIA'S LATEL HOUR. The Round Table, March 1946.]

DRESS IN ANCIENT INDIA. By P. V. Chaturvedi [The Twentieth Century, March 1946.]

BENGALI WRITERS OF ENGLISH VERSE. By Sir Kumar Ghose [The Hindustan, March 1946.]

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

THE INDUSTRIAL DELEGATION

It is learnt that Nawab Zam Yar Jung Bahadur, Public Works Member of H E H the Nizam's Executive Council, will lead the Industrial Delegation which is being sent by Hyderabad to the United Kingdom and the U S A

Nawab Liaquat Jung Bahadur, Commerce and Industries Member will be the other official member of the delegation which will have two non officials, one of whom will be Mr Mir Laik Ali, a prominent Industrialist of Hyderabad

The Delegation will leave for the United Kingdom in the fourth week of May While abroad it will contact British and American Industrialists regarding the Industrial and engineering requirements of the state The delegation will also establish a trade Relations office in London

GODAVARY VALLEY PROJECT

At the first step in the implementation of the Godavary Valley Agricultural and Industrial Development Plan H E H the Nizam's Government have decided to set up immediately a Thermal Power Station in the Godavary area, said Mr Kasim Khan of the Post war Planning Secretariat, broadcasting a talk from the Hyderabad Radio Station

Mr Kasim Khan said that the Thermal Power plant will consist of three 12 500 kws units, the first of which will be available in a period of sixteen months from now and the other two at intervals of six months each The layout of the Station has been so planned as to provide for the addition of three further units of 20 000 kws capacity each so as to give ultimately a combined output of 97 500 kws,

Mysore

FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR MYSORE FORESTS

A five year plan to develop Mysore forests so as to bring about 10,000 acres under fuel plantation has been drawn up by the Forest Department of the Mysore State The schemes are expected to involve a capital expenditure of Rs 25 5 lakhs and a recurring expenditure ranging from 2 95 lakhs in the first year to Rs 4 27 lakhs in the fifth year

The development schemes contemplate exploitation of about 50,000 cubic feet of timber every year from the forests by improving communications, bringing of 500 acres under Cinchona plantation, intensive production of lac and lac products, establishment of a Sericultural Research Station, etc

ROAD RAIL CO ORDINATION IN MYSORE

That the entire transport system should be taken over by the Government and worked out as in Hyderabad is suggested in his report to the Government by Mr J Mohammed Imam who was deputed by the Government of Mysore to study the Road Transport system in Hyderabad with a view to co ordinating transport with railways in the State

If for any reason the Government is reluctant to do this Mr Imam has proposed the formation of a central organisation in the form of a Joint Stock Company, the Government having a major share in it

Baroda

A UNIVERSITY FOR BARODA

"The future of the country lies in the application of science to our agricultural and industrial activities. This fact should be properly driven home to the students of science", said H H the Gaekwad of Baroda, laying the foundation stone of the Science Institute of the SB Garda College, Narsari.

His Highness envisaged the establishment of a separate University for Baroda and said that there were already five arts and science colleges in the State. A fully equipped medical college and an engineering college would be started as soon as building materials are available. When these are done, the dream of a Baroda University will be nearer realisation, he said.

Jodhpur

FOOD PROBLEM IN JODHPUR

A meeting of the Food Advisory Board was held recently in the Mehkma Khas Hall at Jodhpur. Dewan Bahadur Pt Dharam Narainji, Deputy Chief Minister, Presided. Discussion centred round the following:

- (1) Procurement
 - (a) Fixation of quotas to be procured
 - (b) Quota Areas
- (2) Cheap Grain Shops for Jodhpur City
- (3) Restrictions on dinners and entertainments
- (4) Raising of a second Rabi crop and conventions to be given to cultivators for that purpose.

In the course of his reply to a question, Mr G A Carroll, Minister for Supplies stated that Government yielded to none in their solicitude for the cultivator and had shown practical recognition of it by giving all possible facilities to the man who made two blades of grass grow where one grew before.

Travancore

DEWAN ON STATES' POSITION

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, in an interview to the Associated Press of India said that in the discussions which are to be initiated at Simla, the Indian States had no part to play. But in so far as their interests and points of view were concerned, their position would be clarified only after the issue of the impending talks was decided.

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar emphatically declared himself against the idea of Pakistan or any other grouping of Provinces or States on a communal or religious footing. He said "After a full discussion with His Highness the Ruler of Bhopal, I placed before the Cabinet Delegation the point of view of many, if not most, of the States in favour of an effective Central Government operating in conjunction with largely autonomous units composed of Provinces and States and dealing not only with defence, foreign affairs and communications, but also with customs, tariffs and other connected problems."

"Speaking personally, he said, "I have also opposed the idea of Pakistan or any other grouping of Provinces or States on a communal or religious footing. It has also been my contention that if and when the independence of India becomes a *fait accompli* the doctrine of paramountcy will cease to function, and Indian States, acting singly in some cases, and otherwise in groups, will enter into the Indian political structure on terms to be negotiated."

"In the actual discussions now to be initiated at Simla between the representatives of the Congress and the Muslim League" Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar declared "the Indian States have no part to play."

Gwalior**MAHARAJA'S ADDRESS TO PRAJA SABHA**

"A most difficult problem facing my Government today is that of averting starvation and of providing necessary quantity of cloth to the population at large. One of your primary duties is to assist my Government to solve these tremendous problems," observed the Maharaja of Gwalior, addressing the first session of the Raj Sabha and Praja Sabha.

"While grappling with these problems which threaten our very existence, we have to build a solid structure of our State's peace and prosperity. We have to bring about with vigour and promptitude an all round social, moral and cultural development. We have to wipe out mass illiteracy and fight chronic malnutrition and insanitation on an enormous scale.

"Success in the endeavours towards the solution of all these problems, the Maharaja remarked, "will depend to a very large degree upon your wisdom and measure of co-operation that you will extend to my Government in the supreme interest of the people you have the privilege to represent."

Cochin**SALARY OF HIGH COURT JUDGES**

The Cochin Government, have passed orders enhancing the salary of the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judges of the Cochin High Court to Rs 1200 and Rs 1000 respectively from Rs 1000 and 800 p.m. with effect from the re-opening of the Court after the summer recess.

Kashmir**KASHMIR'S 5 YEAR PLAN**

The declaration, that the Kashmir Government would embark on a five year plan for economic development of the State, was made by the Prime Minister, Rai Bahadur Ram Chandra Kak, while introducing the budget for the financial year 1946-47 in the State Assembly. A post war development fund has been created and an initial sum of Rs 70 00 000 has been set apart for taking in hand such schemes as would be implemented during the next financial year. The Prime Minister announced that the advice of Prof K. T. Shah of Bombay had been taken as regards the nature of proposals for the post war development of the State.

Junagadh**HARBOUR FOR JUNAGADH**

The Government of Junagadh State have sanctioned 90 lakhs of rupees for the construction of a harbour on modern lines at Veraval so as to make it easily accessible to ships of larger sizes in any weather conditions. The Government have already spent Rs 600 000 to equip the Veraval docks with quays, warehouses and railway sidings in addition to providing a Port railway, a lighthouse and a meteorological observatory.

Bahawalpur**FOOD GRAIN EXPORTS**

Bahawalpur now ranks second only to Punjab in food grain exports. Grow More Food campaign resulted in the State being able to export in 1943-44 not less than 170,000 tons of food grains to Bengal, Bombay, Travancore, Cochin, NW F. Province and for Defence Services,

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUE

"The Government of India have taken a formal decision to refer the South African Indian issue to the U N O as was announced on the floor of the Central Assembly and this will be done at the proper time said Dr N B Khare Commonwealth Relations Member, Government of India in an interview to the Associated Press of India on April 29 Dr Khare added that the *modus operandi* of referring this matter to the U N O was now being examined by the Government of India

Asked how the South African Indian issue will be brought before the U N O Dr Khare said that one of the articles of the United Nations Organisation clearly laid down that there shall be no discrimination in any country based on religion, race or colour and the various races inhabiting a country shall be treated equally It was likely, he added, that under this clause the South African Indian issue would be brought up before the United Nations Organisation

BOMBAY RADIO CLUBS DECISION

The Managing Committee of the Bombay Presidency Radio Club has decided that, "in view of the racial discrimination practised by the Government of the Union of South Africa towards Indians, no European national of the Union of South Africa be admitted to the Club either as a member or as a guest"

The Committee has also resolved that in future no goods of South African origin be purchased by the Club

U. S. A.

INDIAN STUDENTS IN U S

One hundred and seventy five students selected by the Government of India for studies and training abroad have so far reached America in batches Every one of these students has a place reserved for him at the best available university for his studies

The problem of securing hotel accommodation is extremely difficult particularly at port towns like New York Notwithstanding these difficulties, the Educational Liaison Officer, with the Agent General and his staff, makes arrangements for receiving the students, accommodating them at the port and arranging for further transportation

Burma

RELEASE OF BURMA INDIANS

It is officially announced that the Government has decided that unless there are strong reasons to the contrary, Indians of Burma domicile who have been detained in India will be released and allowed to return to Burma if and when travel facilities become available As regards Indians of Burma domicile detained in Burma many of these have already been released and cases of others are under consideration

Tanganyika

ENTRY INTO TANGANYIKA

It is no longer necessary for an Indian to carry with him an 'entry permit' which he was required to obtain during the war to enable him to enter the Tanganyika Territory

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

C R ON PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

The urgency for setting up a Provisional Central Government with full powers and charging it with the convening of a Constitution making Body and the need for a Parliamentary statute declaring the freedom of India were stressed by Mr C Rajagopalachari, in an interview with the Associated Press of India at Madras on May 5 soon after his return from Delhi.

It may, perhaps, be useful at this stage, said Mr Rajagopalachari, if I disclose that though Gandhiji adheres to the formula of trusting the word of the British Delegation, he is not quite pleased with the delay that is shown. He scents weakness in it and wonders what is to happen if at the end of it we have the same old story—'No agreement, therefore no decision.

To leave things now as they are after having raised such great hopes would be dangerous. Mr Rajagopalachari added.

In the event of the British Delegation finding insuperable difficulties, Mr Rajagopalachari said, the way is always open for the Delegation to consult the eleven Provincial Governments and find out how many of them agree immediately to scheme for a provisional Central Government and giving them such a Central Government at once investing it with full powers. If eight out of the eleven Provinces want a National Central Government

there is no justification to hold up things for the reason that two or three provinces do not agree. In the last resort, as many of the provinces as agree may have their own National Central Government and the dissenting provinces may be left to enjoy the *status quo*. It may be taken for certain that before long they will see the advantage of falling in line with the main body. This is the minimum step expected of the Delegation even if they are unwilling to go further.

THE FAMINE THREAT TO INDIA

Predicting immense loss of life 'if the apparent shortage of five million tons of cereals is not met in the next four months Mr Herbert Hoover has appealed to Australia to advance shipments from her available supplies to aid famine threatened India. In a recorded broadcast beamed to Australia Mr Hoover said there are 500 million people 'without enough food to manage until the August-September harvest comes in the northern hemisphere.

Recounting his visits thus far to 20 countries on world tour, Mr Hoover said,

We now estimate that about 11 million tons of cereals for human consumption are needed barely to maintain life over these four months. The apparent commercial supplies within this period are only six million tons.

Declaring that Americans like Australians eat much smaller proportion of bread and have more food substitutes' Mr Hoover said, Supplies for the June and July requirements of India from North America are too far away to arrive in these months. It would be an immense help if delivery of Australian supplies could be advanced to cover these critical months.

Utterances of the Day

PROF LASKI ON INDIA

"It is time that we left India" declared Prof Laski, Chairman of the British Labour Party, in a speech at the Ealing Town Hall.

"India is competent to govern itself and I think the business of the Labour Government, when the Indian Provincial elections have been held—is to Indianise the whole of the Viceroy's Cabinet. This Cabinet must summon a small Constituent Assembly, sitting in secret" Prof Laski said, adding "When the constitution has been drafted, there should be negotiations between ourselves and the Indian Government on a treaty arrived at, like the one with Ireland in 1921 in which we agree to put the treaty on the Statute Book and set India free."

Prof Laski continued "I am not content with the policy of the British Government in India and I regard the conferment of self government upon India as the acid test of the Labour Government."

"If India then decides that she wants to remain within the British Commonwealth she is free to do so, but if she decides that her destiny is outside the Commonwealth then, she is free to follow that course. "I find it unbearable to think that in the war where we have been fighting for democracy and where great numbers of Indian soldiers have played such a great part in the winning of our victory, Indians should be gaoled and beaten because they seek to serve the cause of Indian freedom. Any British political leader, Socialist or otherwise, who seeks to delay or prevent the fulfilment of Indian freedom is the enemy of Socialist principles."

DR SYED HUSSAIN'S CALL

A strong appeal to the Muslims in India "to take stock of the situation and redeem the recent past" was made by Dr Syed Hussain addressing a predominantly Muslim gathering.

Dr Syed Hussain said that due to the tremendous upheaval that had taken place, India had become the subject of deep concern to outside world. There had been a world consciousness and the impact of war had heightened that consciousness. Whenever an American man or woman thought about the world situation India loomed up as "a very considerable entity" with enormous significance. India could not afford to be entirely indifferent to the reactions of the world, he stressed.

He added that the British had manoeuvred themselves into the position of a judge. The country had failed to present a united demand for freedom. "We have to go as beggars for whatever the British give us. The Delhi negotiations could not be carried on for a long time. Some kind of upshot must come soon. Whatever the outcome of the negotiations, the basic problem of India—the unity and independence of the country—will remain unsolved."

MR ATTLEE'S STATEMENT ON INDIA

A reference to British policy in India was made by the Premier, Mr Attlee, in a speech to the Labour Party at New Castle on Tyne. This is what Mr Attlee said.

No unbiased observer can deny that in every part of the world wherever the British are concerned they are seeking to promote in every possible way the extension of the freedom which they themselves enjoy. We do declare for India's right to govern herself in India. Three of my Cabinet colleagues are patiently endeavouring to make it a reality. We have inherited from the past difficult problems that had not been easy of solution. The outstanding among these are India and Palestine.

THE MADRAS MINISTRY

The Congress Ministry in Madras assumed office on April 30th following the swearing in ceremony in the afternoon. The following is the arrangement for the transaction of the business of the Government among the Ministers

Mr T Prakasam (Prime Minister) Public, Home (Police), Food and Finance

Mr V V Giri Industries, Labour, Electricity, Co operation, Planning Forest and Cinchona

Mr T S Avinashilingam Education

Mr P S Kumaraswami Raja Development (Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries)

Mr K Bashyam Law (Courts, Prisons and Legal)

Mr M Bakthavatsalam Public Works Department (General, Irrigation and Highways)

Mr Daniel Thomas Local Administration
Mrs Rukmini Lakshminpathi Public Health and Medical

Mr K R Karant Land Revenue

Mr K Koti Reddi Hindu Religious Endowments and Special Revenue other than Land Revenue

Mr V Kurmayya Public Information and Emigration

The swearing in ceremony was followed by the issue of a communique withdrawing the Sec 93 Proclamation

We understand that there will be a reshuffling of portfolios among the Ministers shortly. When the Prime Minister's attention was drawn to a criticism that while some Ministers were assigned three or four heavy and important portfolios, others were entrusted with only one or two comparatively light departments, Mr Prakasam pointed out that the allocation of business among the Ministers

had to be done in a hurry within a few hours of the formation of the Ministry and that it was understood that it was only a temporary arrangement calling for redistribution before long

The Prime Minister observed that he proposed to examine the matter soon and rearrange the portfolios, with an eye to co ordination and efficiency

REPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES

Under the caption "Caste Corrosion" Mahatma Gandhi writes in *Haryan*

'Soil corrosion eats up good soil. It is bad enough. Caste corrosion is worse, it eats up men and divides men from men. Letters continue to come from Christians, Parsis, naturally from the Scheduled Castes, and women. They require representation in the Ministry. Provincial competition is already there. The makers of Ministries are not free from the taint and even when they do not favour it, they will lose caste if they dare to do the right thing and restrict their choice to merit only. Democracy can only represent the average if not less than the average. Therefore, a democratic institution to be pure has to attend to the all round education of the humblest and the lowliest. It must take in its sweep all superstition and social abuse. In such a society, there will be no Christian and non Christian, there will be no distinction of sex. If the best persons are women, all Ministers will belong to that sex, if Parsis they will be all Parsis. That good day may be far off. What is to be done in the meanwhile? Those who feel that they are left out should have patience and rise by dint of service and merit. Those who happen to be Ministers should mete out even justice which must include extra efforts to raise the neglected and down trodden. They should make all feel at every step that they are servants, not masters of the nation.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

An all India Council for Technical Education has been constituted by the Government of India, with Mr N R Sarker as Chairman, to study the needs of the country for higher technical education. The Council will survey the whole field of technical education and advise in what areas technical institutions should be established and for what respective branches of technology they should provide. The Council will be composed of representatives of the Central Legislative Assembly, the Council of State, various Chambers of Commerce, the Trade Union Congress and Technical Institutions.

CANDIDATES FOR STUDIES ABROAD

The Government propose to grant an allowance to the eleven candidates selected by them last year for advanced courses of technical and scientific studies abroad, but are still unable to sail because of the difficulty in securing passages and in getting admission in Colleges in U K and U S.

Only 34 candidates have actually sailed. Four others have since relinquished their scholarship after selection. The Budget provision on account of equipment, travelling allowances and stipends to 49 candidates amounts to Rs 7,30,000.

CALCUTTA VICE CHANCELLOR

Mr. P. N. Benerjee a former Minister of Bengal, has assumed charge as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. He is the 12th Indian Vice Chancellor of the University, which was started about 90 years ago.

USE OF MOTHER TONGUE

The Governing body of the Sesaria College, Wardha, has decided to introduce Hindi and Marathi as media of instruction in the college from July, 1947, announces the principal, Mr. Agarwal. The Nagpur University is being approached for granting the necessary permission. Arrangements are also being made for preparing and publishing suitable text books in Hindi and Marathi.

The introduction of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction in a technical college will undoubtedly be an important landmark in the history of education in India, and it is but proper that Wardha should give a bold lead in this matter, as it did in many others since Mahatma Gandhi's stay in Sewagram, Mr Agarwal said.

BOMBAY PRIMARY TEACHERS

Primary school teachers employed by Local Boards in Bombay Province, it is announced, are to be given Dearness Allowance at Government rates with retrospective effect from July 1, 1944. The Government of Bombay will bear the entire extra expenditure.

The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to call upon the Local authorities to pay the additional money immediately to their primary teachers. The Local authorities will then be reimbursed by the Government.

The Government have also asked School Boards to treat the period of the recent teachers' strike as a vacation in lieu of the ensuing summer vacation.

IN A, MEN RELEASED

Practically all remaining officers and men of the Indian Army who, while prisoners of war in the hands of the Japanese joined the so called Indian National Army, have now been released from detention, says a Press communique

The charges against Captain Hassan and Naik Rasool Baksh whose trials were to have begun shortly have been withdrawn

Capt Hassan who is rapidly going blind has been judged unfit to stand trial. It would be unfair, therefore, to try Naik Rasool Baksh who, as a subordinate, merely seems to have carried out the orders of his superior officer. In the case of Major Kasliwal also further facts have come to light which have led to a decision to drop the charges against him. The trial of Signaller Sher Bahadur, now in progress, is therefore, the last trial to take place

Three officers, 13 VCO's and 140 Other Ranks who are not yet medically fit to be released, are still in hospital

The camps at Bahadurgarth, and at Baraset near Calcutta, have been closed

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President, in a statement on May 5, welcomes the decision of the Government of India to drop all further cases against members of INA and characterised it as a measure of statesmanship. He said 'The decision of the Government to drop all further cases against the members of the INA will be welcomed by all sections of the Indian people. It is a measure of statesmanship which will react favourably on public opinion and contribute to improvement in Indo-British relations'

JAP WAR LEADERS INDICTED

Twenty eight Japanese war leaders were indicted in Tokyo on charges of war crimes. They include Gen Tojo, a former Premier, and Admiral Nogura, one time Chief of Staff to the Japanese Navy

They are charged with planning, preparing, initiating, and waging wars of aggression in violation of international law and treaties, committing wholesale murder, and instigating numerous 'crimes against humanity'

All the 28 defendants are accused of participating, as 'leaders, instigators or accomplices in formulating or executing conspiracy with Germany and Italy to 'secure military, naval, political, and economic domination of the whole world'. They are also held responsible for "all acts performed by themselves or any person in the execution of this plan"

Dr Radha Binod Pal, former Judge of the Calcutta High Court and former Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, has been appointed a Judge on the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal established in Tokyo

MADRAS SHOOTING CASE

Orders were pronounced by Mr S M Hasan, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras, discharging Mr J A Byers ICS, Judge of the High Court of Madras, who was charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 304 IPC, laid against him by the Crime Branch Police, following the Fort Railway Station shooting incident of February 25, last

The Magistrate held that the accused cannot be said to have acted otherwise than in the lawful exercise of his right of private defence and that there were no grounds for committing him to Sessions for trial on the charge under Section 304 IPC.

NATIONALISATION OF INSURANCE BUSINESS

In the recent debate on the Insurance Bill in the Central Assembly, Mr Sasinka Sekhar Sanyal (Congress) said he was in agreement with the noble ideals which had prompted the Commerce Member to bring the present Bill, but regretted it was only a poor approach to attain those ideals. He urged that the business of insurance should be nationalised. Mr Sanyal analysed at length the provisions dealing with reduction of overall expenditure, and urged that under no circumstances should remuneration paid to field workers and insurance agents be reduced. On the other hand, these workers who had built up the industry by hard work should be paid more. He was also afraid that any reduction in the remuneration paid to insurance labour might adversely affect the future growth of the industry by drawing the best men away from it.

Mr Sanyal agreed that overall expenditure should be curtailed, but said this should be done without touching the field workers and insurance agents. He suggested as possible sources the "very fat salaries paid to insurance executives, who were in many cases 'the brothers in law, or sons in law or others in law of insurance managements'."

Mr Sanyal also stated that there were a large number of 'idle' agents who rested in the shadow of the Government. It was up to the Government to see that Government employees did not take up insurance agencies in the name of their

wives and relations. This was an instance of "the grossest corruption and bribery." By eliminating these persons from the field of active insurance workers, remuneration of active workers could automatically be increased.

RAPID INCREASE IN INSURANCE AGENTS

The number of insurance agents in India has increased from 52,935 in 1942 to 89,902 in 1944. Is this rapid increase a healthy or unhealthy sign?

An enquiry was conducted by the Superintendent of Insurance as regards life insurance business. The result of the enquiry was that the average commission per annum accruing to each agent amounted to less than Rs. 30. Even this amount would be significantly reduced under certain circumstances. As this reduced figure is an average, there should be a large number of agents drawing commission amounting to Rs. 10 per annum and perhaps even less.

"The question that arises for consideration is," states the Insurance Year Book, 1945, "whether it is fair to the genuine agent that so many who do not take to the profession seriously—for those who earn very small amounts of commission should naturally be 'such'—should be allowed to compete with him to his detriment." The remedy for this over crowding of agents, it avers, is mainly in the hands of the insurers. "They should not encourage the casual agents," business through whom is in effect "rebating without coming within the clutches of the law."

ENEMY FIRMS IN INDIA

The Central Government have issued a notification under the DI Rules allowing enemy nationals in India who are still enemy firms under the DI Rules to have commercial and financial transactions with persons and concerns in all countries within the British Empire, the USA all neutral countries in Europe, France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Greece, Italy (including Sicily) Finland, Denmark, Norway, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, who are not for the time being enemies under Clause (I—D) of Rule 97 of those rules. All transactions are subject to existing export, import postal and financial regulations in force in this country.

INDIAN TRADE IN MIDDLE EAST

"The Middle East markets are searching for sources of supply and the business circles of these markets are convinced that India has now the opportunity and the means to take the position of Japan. These markets are prepared to buy the manufactured goods that India can offer and not only raw materials and semi finished articles.

Thus observes a report on trade prospects with the Middle East countries including Turkey, in general and Egypt in particular, submitted to the Commerce Department by Mr J A Rahim ICS, Government of India Trade Commissioner in Alexandria.

INDIA'S WHEAT QUOTA

India has informed the Combined Food Board that it flatly rejects the tentative May wheat allocation of a little more than one fifth of the originally requested 500 000 tons.

REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARKS

In order to allow the trading public sufficient time to get their trade marks registered, the Government of India in the Commerce Department have postponed the operation of Section 68 of the Indian Trade Marks Act, 1940 for a further period of one year, that is up to 1st January, 1947. This Section lays down a penalty for falsely representing a trade mark as "registered" when it is not actually so.

BRITAIN'S OVERSEAS INVESTMENTS

An estimate of Britain's revenue from overseas investments puts the net credit to the U K from overseas sources at £97 000 000 during 1945. The White Paper accompanying the Budget shows that this compares with £205 000 000 in 1938, and that during the war £1,118 000 000 of foreign investments were sold or repatriated. The contraction in revenue should, comments *The Financial Times*, impel a Chancellor of the Exchequer to use all his powers to ensure that foreign debtors will meet their obligations more completely than they have done hitherto.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY'S LIABILITIES

The Suez Canal Company and the Egyptian Government failed to reach an agreement in their discussions on the value of the gold franc for payment of the Company's obligations.

Both parties decided to leave the matter to the judgment of courts in view of the gravity and difficulty of the issues involved.

WOMAN PAINTER ON GANDHIJI

"I do not come easily under the spell of an individual. But I must say how much impressed I was by his personality. He is so human. No one is too lowly to escape his notice. His simplicity is his greatness. His is a remarkable philosophy."

This tribute to Mahatma Gandhi was paid in an interview with *Globe* by the Viennese painter, Mme Emmy Lichtwitz Krasso, who has just completed a symbolic portrait in oils of the Mahatma, whom she depicts as stepping over the mountain tops bringing a message of freedom to India, his robe flowing behind his shoulders like wings and merging with the clouds.

A refugee from Nazi oppression Mme Krasso left her home in Vienna with her chemist husband six years ago to find sanctuary in India. During her stay she has taught art at Bombay's Petit High School. She introduced a fascinating new technique into child education, and has plans to bring the work of young Indian students before the public eye in the United States as part of a wider scheme for international exchange of young ideas.

MIRA BEN'S APPEAL

Shrimati Mira Ben, Honorary Special Adviser to Government of U P in a statement to the Press appeals to all sections of the people to grow more food by all possible means, and with the organised energy of a military campaign.

She says "Having been put on the job of 'Grow more food' by the U P Government, I find myself face to face with a truth which

is stark and ugly. If an invading army were to appear upon the Indian frontiers a super human effort would be made to stop its advance and drive it off. The famine which now faces India will account for the death of larger numbers than would an invading army. But with one vital difference. The invading army would overwhelm all grades of society. The Government officials, the zemindars, the wealthy businessmen, all would be involved. But the famine will wipe out only the poor. This is why the efforts to defeat the famine are wholly inadequate and lack all the organised energy of a military campaign.

In order to grow more food in the immediate future, we must concentrate on the ploughing up of all cultivable waste lands. Most of such lands will not have facilities for irrigation, but that need not deter us. The rains are coming and if we get the soil ploughed in time to sow the seed at the commencement of the rains, nature in her bounty will do the rest.

AUSTRALIAN NURSES

A Brahmin Indian girl, recently interviewed at her work in Melbourne, had high praise for Australian nurses. She said that it was her opinion that Australian nurses were smart, efficient, and internationally minded.

The girl, who was the matron of a hospital in India while a member of the Indian Military Nursing Service, said that there was a great shortage of well trained nurses in India. She expressed concern about the status of Indian nurses and said that until high caste Indian girls made a determined effort to train, the nursing profession in India would not take its rightful place.

TAMIL NAD JOURNALISTS' FEDERATION

Presiding over the Fifth Annual Conference of the Tamil Nad Journalists' Federation, which met at Madras on April 20, Mr N Raghunatha Aiyar, Assistant Editor, *The Hindu*, called for a reorientation of news values to suit the changed political conditions. With the establishment of Swaraj, he pointed out, the Press would have not only to exercise continual vigilance in the cause of the small man but it should constantly aim at enlarging the mental horizon of the people, encourage co operative ways of living and promote that sympathy which comes of mutual understanding.

Referring to service conditions of working journalists, the President observed that while the more far seeing among newspaper proprietors had within the past few months effected improvements in the emoluments of journalists, the attitude of too many news papers towards the Federation's efforts in this direction was still one of "sullen watchfulness or good humoured slight."

A large number of delegates from the City and from all over the province attended the Conference.

INDIANISATION OF 'TIMES OF INDIA'

Anent the paragraph that appeared in the press columns regarding the purchase of 65 per cent of the shares of the *Times of India* by Seth Dalmia, it is reported that the Proprietors of the *Times* have accepted the offer for purchase of the shares of the company in pursuance of the policy decided on some time ago to introduce Indian capital into the firms and that the shares proposed to be transferred mainly belong to shareholders now permanently resident in England. It has been further stated by the *Times* proprietors that direction, management and editorial policy of the paper and its allied publications will remain unchanged and that the whole business will be conducted by Messrs Bennett Coleman and Co. as heretofore.

DR EDWARD THOMPSON

Dr Edward Thompson, novelist and poet and a lifelong friend of Mahatma Gandhi and the late Poet Rabindranath Tagore, died on April 20 at his home at Bledlow, Bucks, at the age of 60.

Dr Thompson had been ill for two years and underwent a major operation in March 1944. He was an expert in the languages, literature and affairs of India. He once had a meeting with the Congress "Cabinet", the only outsider ever to do so. He was an educational missionary to Bengal and afterwards lectured on problems of India in America.

In 1944 his 23 year old son, Major Frank Thomson was captured and shot as a rebel after he had been parachuted into Bulgaria to fight anti German citizens.

One of his books the "Burmese Silver" was filmed with Conard Veidt and Sabu playing the leading roles.

PROF C N VAKIL

Prof C N Vakil, whose services as economist to the Planning and Development Department, Government of India, were lent by the University of Bombay has left the Department to take charge as Director of the University School of Economics and Sociology at Bombay.

It is recalled that Prof Vakil joined the Planning Department last year on the invitation of Sir Ardeshir Dalal, Planning and Development Member then Prof Vakil who has left within a month of Sir Ardesah's resignation is understood to have been disappointed that he could not find in the department those opportunities for constructive and economic planning to which he had looked forward.

SIR S RADHAKRISHNAN IN AMERICA

In the work of creating a new pattern of living—a new social mind—needed at the present day, some of the fundamental insights of Indian culture may perhaps be found useful, declared Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University in a broadcast talk entitled, "The role of India in the present crisis of the spirit."

DRUG FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Ever since the early days of sulphona mide drug treatment it has been hoped that some substance would be found which would be effective against the germs of tuberculosis. According to a preliminary report in *The Lancet* a specialist in Sweden has been obtaining promising results with a substance called 'para amino salicylic acid'. This is apparently a derivative of the more familiar salicylic acid, and it has been given to 20 patients at a sanatorium with some immediate improvements which are important. Certain cases with tuberculous abscesses have also appeared to benefit from this new drug. It is not yet available in this country, writes the *Times* medical correspondent to his paper and it is too early to know what the eventual results upon the tuberculous lung condition will be.

ADVANCE IN CANCER TREATMENT

Prof Nina Klyuyeva and a group of scientists of the Mechnikov institute have reported to the Presidium of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences that they have evolved a preparation of bacterial origin which affects malignant tumours.

Ninety five per cent of mice that had sarcoma of cancer were completely cured after an injection of the new preparation. Humans suffering from malignant tumours have also been treated with this preparation.

Although it is regarded as too early to draw final conclusions, the Moscow scientists consider that their experiments have given encouraging results.

FIBRE GLASS FOR TEETH

A special form of fibre glass yarn has been successfully used to fill root canals of teeth. The fibre glass has great tensile strength, high dimensional stability, is non toxic, non irritating and permits observation of the canal filling by Ray

HEALTH PLAN FOR INDIA

"It may take 40 years or more to implement fully the long term programme, but once given effect to it will secure for the people a reasonably well developed service based on the newer and extended conception of modern health requirements," said Dr B C Roy, member of the Bhor Health Committee, in a broadcast talk on the Committee's report from the All India Radio, Calcutta.

Dr Roy said that such a long term of years would be necessary to give full effect to the scheme because (1) The total number of personnel required for implementing the scheme for the whole of British India was not now available. It may take 30 years and more to do so, (2) The money necessary for giving effect to this scheme, both recurring and non recurring, may be difficult for this country to afford immediately, and (3) The technique for providing the health services should be developed in reference to the existing social and economic conditions of the people. Emphasising this third reason Dr Roy pointed out that it should be a tragedy if the technique developed in other countries were to be applied to India.

He also mentioned the short term scheme covering two periods of five years.

FOOD RATIONING IN INDIA

"May I ask from this platform why the mighty Central Government of this country with its limitless resources and funds with hundreds of highly paid officers of the ICS and Imperial Services has not succeeded even in the course of the last six years in introducing a scientific system of rationing of foodstuffs. The truth is that there is a world of difference between the rationing in this country and Britain where the greatest attention is paid to the nutritive value of food supplied to keep the people fit and in good morale," observed Capt P B Mukherjee, in his Presidential address at the First Orissa Provincial Medical Conference at Cuttack.

THE NEW COINAGE

As the nickel brass alloy, which was adopted as a war time expedient, has been found unsatisfactory for coinage, it has been decided that further requirements of two-anna one anna and half anna pieces should be minted in the cupronickel alloy, which was used before the war for two and one anna coins. The notification to this effect which has appeared in the *Gazette of India* also mentions the continuance of the present composition of the pice or quarter anna.

The legal tender character of existing nickel brass coins in circulation will remain unimpaired.

CHANGE IN BRITISH COINS

British public opinion is already wondering whether there will be a change in the wording of the Royal title and the inscription on British coins after India has chosen to be either an independent State or a member of the British Commonwealth.

At present, the King is designated the Emperor of India while all coins of the realm bear abbreviated Latin words *Ind Imp* (India Imperator or Emperor of India).

According to the *Evening Standard* the words 'Emperor of India' in the royal title are not likely to continue when India becomes independent or stays in the Commonwealth.

SAVINGS BANK CENTENARY

Dr Henry Duncan died on February 19 just 100 years ago he was one of the first founders of savings banks in England. Dr Duncan was a minister of the parish of Ruthwell in Scotland.

In 1810 he instituted the first savings bank in Scotland in a cottage at Ruthwell. Convinced of the value of his project he laboured by speech and pamphlet to make it as widely known as possible. In spite of all his great work Henry Duncan had no reward whatsoever. But it mattered not before his death he had the satisfaction of knowing that the savings bank had come to stay.

RAILWAY RATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Railway Rates Advisory Committee appointed under the Government of India, Railway Department (Railway Board's) resolution No 606 T dated the 25th March 1926, continues to function as hitherto its Office being located on Fraser Road Patna. Dr Khaja Sir Mohamad Noor, CBE, ex Judge Patna High Court is the Committee's present President.

The functions of the Committee are to investigate and make recommendations on

(1) Complaints of 'undue preference'—Section 42 (A) of the Indian Railways Act

(2) Complaints that rates are unreasonable in themselves

(3) Complaints or disputes in respect of terminals—Section 46 of the Indian Railways Act

(4) Complaints in respect of conditions as to packing of articles specially liable to damage in transit or liable to cause damage to other merchandise.

(5) Complaints in respect of conditions as to packing attached to a rate and

(6) Complaints that railways do not fulfil their obligations to provide reasonable facilities under Section 42 (3) of the Indian Railways Act

RAILWAY TRADE DISPUTE

The trade dispute between the Railway Administrations and the All India Railway men's Federation representing the Unions of Railway Workers has been referred to Mr Justice Rajadhyaksha of the Bombay High Court for adjudication according to a *Gazette of India Extraordinary*.

The points for adjudication relate to the demands made by the workers in respect of a reduction of working hours, compulsory weekly rest for all staff, including essentially intermittent workers, the adequacy of leave reserves and the extension of leave facilities and holiday concessions to daily rated and inferior employees.

INDIAN ART IN LONDON

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by the famous Indian artist, Jamini Roy, was opened at Arcade Gallery in London on April 27. The ceremony was performed by Mr E M Forster, well known novelist and writer on Indian affairs.

Over a hundred people present at the opening included the Indian High Commissioner, Sir Samuel Runganadhan and leading British writers and artists, Mr Forster told the audience that during his recent visit to India he appreciated Indian art specially the work of Bengali artists and it was his interest while in India that was mainly responsible for the exhibition being arranged in London—the first time that Roy's work has been exhibited outside India.

Nearly 80 paintings and drawings were on view. The High Commissioner said that there was a strong bond of affinity between British and Indian artists and writers. Such an exhibition as this he said will acquaint the British public with the cultural developments of India. I am very much in favour of the suggestion made by the Marquess of Zetland, former Secretary for India, for opening a permanent centre in London for oriental art and literature. Though great political changes are taking place in India to day, there should be mutual understanding between our two countries in the field of art and culture," he added.

NOTED NORTH INDIAN MUSICIAN

Khan Saheb Alladiya Khan, one of the best Indian musicians of the day, passed away at Bombay at the age of 89. A condolence meeting was held at Bombay on March 28 under the presidentship of the Rt. Hon. Dr M R. Jayakar when the question of perpetuating his memory was discussed.

It may be remembered that at the All India Music Conference held in Bombay in 1944 he was present by special invitation at the closing session and sang for half an hour accompanied by his disciple, Bai Kesarbai, to the great joy of the immense audience.

INDIAN CRICKET TEAM IN ENGLAND

A distinguished gathering of cricketers and other sportsmen met in India House London on April 29 to welcome the Indian cricket team at a reception given by the High Commissioner for India in London, Sir Samuel Runganadhan. Sir Samuel, welcoming the members of the team, said "It is our great pride that India is the first side to come to England after the war, thus resuming the sporting contests between members of the Commonwealth."

Sir Samuel said that under the existing conditions it was not easy to transport a team and its gear thousands of miles, and the team might have to borrow kit from their English friends.

"I am sure the team will get into fine fettle with a few days' practice, if the English weather improves." Sir Samuel said. Paying a tribute to the improvement in Indian cricket, the High Commissioner said that Denis Compton and Joe Hardstaff would be able to say how strongly the game flourished in India.

BANGALORE OLYMPIC STADIUM

Rules have been framed by the Government of Mysore for the management of the Olympic Stadium in Bangalore City. In doing so, Government observe that the Stadium is the property of Government and its maintenance and supervision will vest in it.

The immediate charge of the Stadium and the management of its affairs, subject to the general control of Government, shall vest in a committee of Management with the Municipal Commissioner, Bangalore City, as Chairman.

The Stadium will be made available for all sports and athletic events, if it is of public interest for which requisition may be made. The Stadium will not be granted free of charge for any event for which gate fees are charged except with the specific sanction of the Committee.

THE NEW LIGHT

A new light, which its inventors claim may rival the sun in brilliance and a radar-guided bomb nick-named "The Bat" which relentlessly followed enemy warships merchantmen and sank them however hard they tried to elude it, are among the latest scientific devices disclosed at New York.

"The Bat" was used during the war but only now has the security ban on mention of it been lifted to reveal its existence.

The new light was demonstrated by the Western Union Telegraph Company. At the laboratory on Long Island, where the new device was developed, recent experiments were said to have showed that brilliances, fully one half that of the sun could be achieved. The finished units demonstrated, generated almost microscopic points of light equal to one sixteenth of the sun's brilliance.

SECRETS OF ATOMIC ENERGY

British secrecy about Atomic energy has harmed international relations, declared Professor Harold Laski, Chairman of the British Labour Party, at a meeting at Bedford on April 28.

"I do not understand the secrecy that surrounds the attitude of the British Government towards Atomic energy," Professor Laski said. "That secrecy has already done sufficient harm to international relations."

"I would like the Prime Minister to say in the House of Commons that there ought to be no secrets and that all existing Atomic bombs ought to be in the possession of an international authority. As it is, we are destroying international community of science and encouraging division between the scientists."

INFRARED 'EYE'

Another recent U.S. invention is an infrared "eye," which can see for 10 to 15 miles in the dark. This may have uses ranging from a burglar or fire alarm to a weapon against cancer.

FILM OF BLOOD TRANSFUSION

One of the interesting documentaries produced by Paul Rotha for the British Ministry of Information is titled *Blood Transfusion*.

This film, says a reviewer, surveys the development of the technique of blood transfusion and includes highlights in the history of blood transfusion. The discovery of the blood groups and their practical application is graphically represented.

The film shows the use of transfusion in World War I, its development in the postwar period, the methods of collecting and storing blood in Russia, Spain, the United States and Britain, blood transfusion in the British armed forces during the early portion of this war and finally the preparation and use of liquid and dried serum and plasma.

TRADE FILMS

Motion pictures probably are the greatest single stimulant to the export sales of a nation's products. This is especially true of consumers' goods—automobiles, washing machines, household gadgets and so on. By reflecting the customs and tastes of a people (no matter how incorrectly) they become cumulatively the most effective of all ambassadors. Up to now British prestige and British trade have depended on the navy and on control of strategic areas around the world, but in the future neither the navy nor the colonies will retain their past importance. "Trade used to follow the flag," say the British. "Now it follows the film," says Francis Sull Wickware in *"Ips"*.

16 MILLIMETER PRODUCTION

Behind the current Hollywood rush to produce 16 millimeter films for use in educational and industrial fields is a recent survey revealing 50,000 potential outlets on a rental basis alone. Cecil B. De Mille and Walt Disney are already planning 16 millimeter production. Disney's experience in making Army and Navy training films is expected to give him a jump on the others.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACT

The Government of India have published a set of rules to be made under Chapter VIII of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, says a Press Note. This Chapter which will come into force from July 1, 1946 makes it compulsory for every motor vehicle to be insured against the death of, or bodily injury to, third parties involved in accidents etc arising out of the use of the Vehicle. In addition risks to passengers travelling in public service vehicles have to be covered.

The draft rules which are required for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of Chapter VIII generally cover in particular the forms of the documents required conditions governing the activities of co-operative insurance societies of owners of public service vehicles and the insurance of vehicles brought into British India by visitors to India.

The Government are considering what arrangements can be made in respect of motor vehicles moving between British India and Indian States so as to cause minimum inconvenience to the owners.

Owners of motor vehicles are not required to take any action at present, and Government intend to remind them of the necessity to insure at a later stage.

BRITISH MOTOR MACHINERY FOR INDIA

Orders for British plant and equipment to the value of £750,000 were brought from India by Mr H. T. Smith of the Nuffield organisation who arrived in England recently by air. The equipment will be shipped to Calcutta where a factory is in the course of construction for the manufacture of the 'Hindustan Ten'. This car is produced to Nuffield design by Indians for Indians.

Mr Smith has the highest praise for Indian labour. He said, the Indian is an excellent workman and with training could acquire manipulative ability and dexterity equal to that of his English counterpart. The introduction to India of motor car production will help to raise the standard of life of Indian work people.

AIR SERVICES TO INDIA

The policy of the British Government in the matter of civil air traffic and the programme of the British Overseas Airways, particularly the extension and frequency of its services were outlined by Lord Knollys, Chairman of the British Overseas Airways Corporation in an interview in Karachi.

Asked about services to India, Lord Knollys said that it was certainly proposed to accelerate and increase the frequency of services to India as soon as possible. Acceleration he said, would take place as soon as the new Tudor Two aircraft came into operation early in 1947. The present service of York aircraft would be increased to meet any necessary traffic.

Lord Knollys indicated that a new service from the United Kingdom to Hongkong would shortly be inaugurated and it was proposed to employ flying boats. He said that further extension of that service would be dependent on the result of negotiations now proceeding with the Chinese Government. The service would probably start with one, a week in each direction from the UK to Hongkong flying across India and then by way of Rangoon and Bangkok.

ROCKET POSTAL SERVICE

A half hourly rocket postal service between Britain and the United States is forecast by Mr Woodburn, parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Supply and Aircraft Production. This may not be possible, however, until the fundamental difficulty of halting the rocket at the end of its flight has been overcome.

It is at present possible to send a rocket with a ton of mail from Britain to India at a speed averaging 3,600 miles an hour. No means of slowing down the rocket sufficiently to prevent its burying itself in the earth at the end of its flight or completely smashing up, has yet been discovered.

Rockets of this kind would cost about £10,000.

TECHNICAL TRAINING

In pursuance of the Central Government's scheme of sending students at Government expense for training in advanced courses of technical and scientific studies to meet probable post war needs it was decided in consultation with the Central Government that the Madras Government should sponsor for the purpose 49 students who are not in Government service. Accordingly 49 students were selected in September 1945 for being sent abroad for higher studies. The cost in the first year of the grant of equipment and travelling allowances and stipends to the 49 candidates was estimated at Rs 7,30,100, of which half will be met by the Provincial Government and the remaining half by the Central Government. Four out of the 49 candidates have since relinquished their scholarships. Thirty four of these candidates have actually sailed for the United Kingdom or the United States of America as the case may be. The remaining 11 candidates have not been able to sail because of the difficulty in securing passages and in getting admission. It is also proposed to grant them allowances from 1st January 1946 until they actually sail.

MACHINERY FOR INDIA

Mr K A D Naoroji of Tatas, who is India's delegate to the International Labour Organisation's Iron and Steel Committee Conference at Cleveland, stated in an interview with the United Press of America that India's most pressing need was for machinery which must come mainly from the United States. He said "If India gets the machinery she needs, she will be able to produce a million tons of finished steel in 1946."

MANUFACTURE OF PENICILLIN

At a meeting of representatives of industrial concerns interested in the manufacture of penicillin convened at Delhi by the Director-General of Industries and Supplies, many aspects of penicillin production were discussed and the difficulties in the way of establishing manufacture on a commercial scale were considered.

SUBSIDY FOR SINKING TUBE WELLS

Grants have been given by the Central Government to Provincial Governments for the construction of wells and a large number of them have already been completed. A subsidy of 50 per cent will now also be given to any cultivator who undertakes to dig a tube well in his village. The subsidy will be shared between the Government of India and the provinces.

This announcement was made by Sir Jogerdra Singh, Member for Agriculture, at the Central Food Advisory Council the last meeting.

The Government had also decided, he added, to set up a central ground water section to tap subsoil resources. The Government were able to secure the advice of Mr Roscoe Moss an American expert. He and Sir William Stampe, Irrigation Adviser to the Government of India, had recently toured various parts of the country and drawn up a plan to carry out boring operations. All machinery for the purpose had been purchased from the U S A.

OVERDOSE OF MANURE

Investigations conducted at the Technological Laboratory Bombay with a view to ascertaining the effect of manurial treatment on the yield and quality of Cambodia cotton show that application of fertilisers either failed to produce any significant increase in yield, or even produced a depressing effect when the soil in the field was *naturally* rich, but, on the other hand, when the soil was poor and deficient in substances, necessary for plant nutrition, treatment with fertilisers gave a heavy increase in yield.

Spinning tests revealed that treatment with these fertilisers results in somewhat less neppy yarns if the soil fertility is originally low. No such improvement is however, observed where the soil is inherently rich. This result is of the utmost practical importance in so far as indiscriminate use of fertilisers, without due notice being taken of soil fertility, is likely to involve the agriculturists in additional expenditure without bringing him corresponding monetary return in the shape of higher yield or better quality lint.

TEXTILE WORKERS' DEMANDS

A broad outline of the Bombay Government's policy towards Labour was given by Mr Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister in charge of the Labour portfolio at a Press Conference in Bombay.

Mr Nanda said that the Government had to be absolutely impartial in the administration of Labour laws. They had to tackle Labour problems irrespective of the parties whether political or purely social and on the merits of the questions involved. A country which wanted its productive capacity to be well maintained and kept up for the purpose of improving the standard of living of her people should see to it that the various social welfare requirements of Labour were met. The Congress was pledged to work to this end. The Government of Bombay which was composed of popular Ministers was determined as a matter of policy to see firstly that industrial peace was maintained. Secondly the Government wanted that production of goods was maintained on a high level. At the same time, the Government did not want everything to be left to the will of the employer in his relations to Labour.

MR GIRI ON LABOUR POLICY

Interviewed on the immediate policy of the Madras Ministry regarding its labour policy, Mr Giri, Minister for Labour stated:

The present Government will take up the threads and follow the policy laid down by the first Congress Government as early as 22nd October 1937. The industrial workers must realise that they are citizens of the country and as such they have their rights and privileges both as citizens and as workers. They should feel that this Government is their own National Government and co-operate with others in helping it to run smoothly. Freedom of association the Government wishes to make it clear is assured to workers and their organisations. They expect the employers of this Province to be ready and willing to give recognition to every bona fide trade union organisation as a matter of course.

INDIAN NEWSPRINT MISSION

Mr Devadas Gandhi and Mr Ramnath Goenka, Members of the Indian Newprint Delegation, who arrived in London on April 30 on their way to Canada called on the British Prime Minister, Mr Attlee the next evening to apprise him of the latest newprint situation in India and how newspapers are hard hit in the absence of adequate import of newsprint. They urged Mr Attlee to use his influence with Canada for the allotment of a larger quantity of Canadian newsprint to India.

Mr Devadas Gandhi and Mr Goenka are getting down to the preliminaries of organising 50,000 tons of newsprint for more than 1,100 Indian newspapers (says a *Reuter* report). Their 'hunt' will take them 50,000 miles through Washington and Canada before they return to India via London at the end of May. Both Mr Devadas Gandhi and Mr Goenka have stressed that their present mission is neither a "pleasure trip" nor a "political visit" but an all out bid to improve the critical newsprint situation on behalf of the Press of India. Indian newspapers last year received an allocation of 32,000 tons of newsprint. India could use 100,000 tons of newsprint a year if it was available.

NO HONORIFIC TITLE FOR MINISTERS

The honorific title of 'Honourable' prefixed to the names of Ministers of Bombay Government will henceforth be abolished. A Press Note issued in this connection says: From May 1 1946, the Ministers, including the Prime Minister, will not have the prefix 'Honourable' and will be referred to only as Ministers for the departments concerned.

HISTORIC JAP SWORD

A historic Samurai sword was handed to H M the King at Buckingham Palace recently. It was formerly the property of Field Marshal Count Terauchi, and was surrendered on his behalf to Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, by Field Marshal Count Haraichi at Saigon on November 30, 1945. Commander A. Leveson, acting for Admiral Mountbatten gave the sword to the King.

You'll Hardly Believe It!

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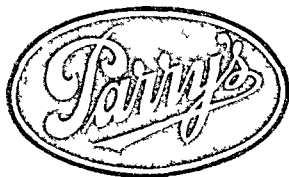
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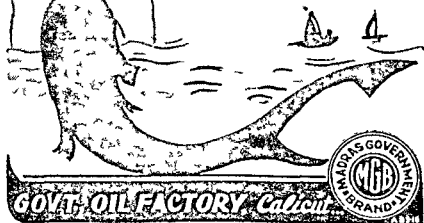
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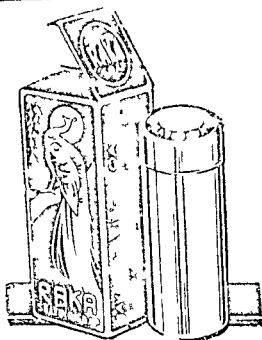
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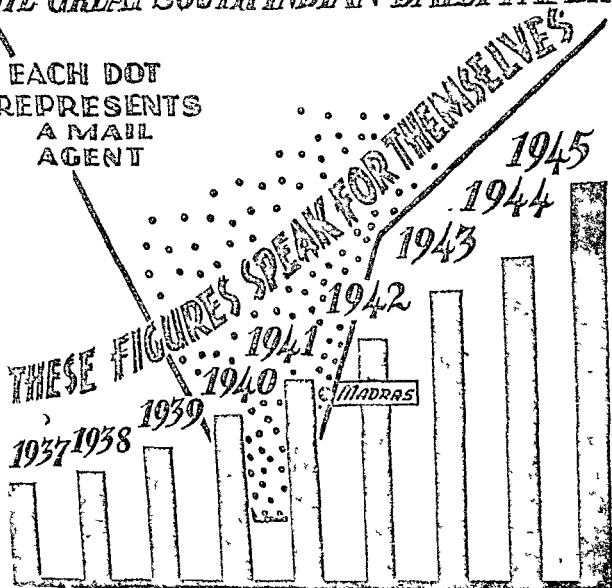
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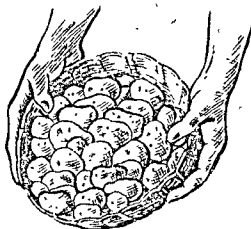
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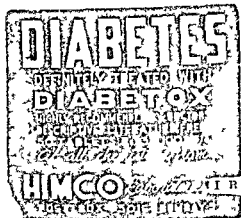
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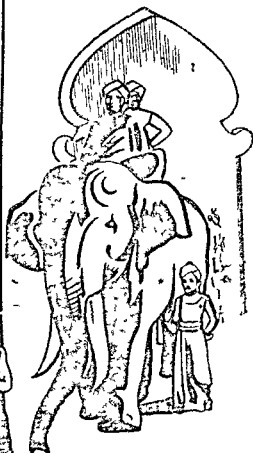
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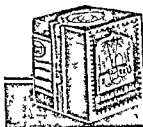
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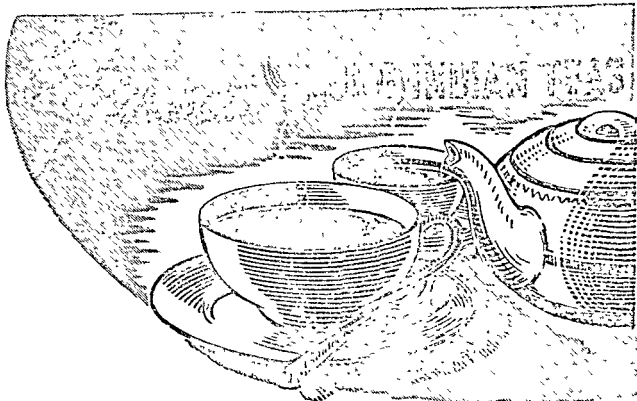
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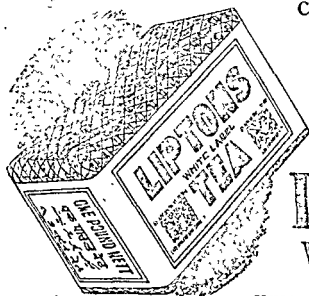
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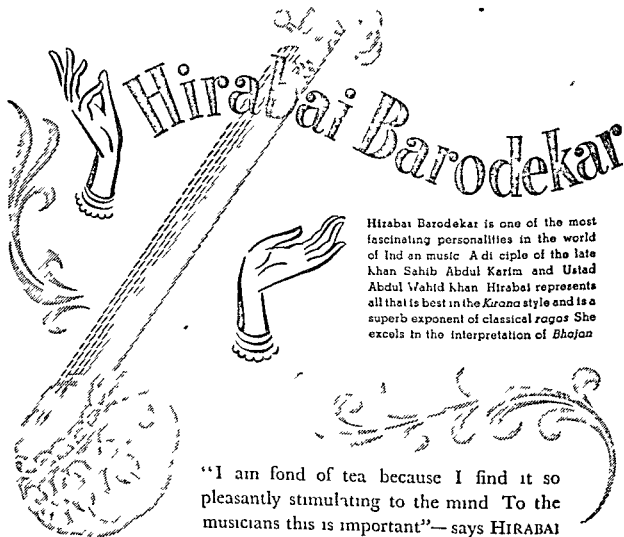
Exhibitions play an important role in educating the public and in stimulating in them greater interest in the articles exhibited. This indirectly helps the progress in the matter of articles exhibited which progress is very often jeopardised by the lack of knowledge about them in the public. The astonishing variety and excellence of the industrial products of the state were richly demonstrated in the Baroda Arts and Industries Exhibition held recently in Baroda.

Visitors to the exhibition found a wide range of textiles woven on powerlooms as well as on handlooms, scores of designs in calico prints, various pharmaceutical and chemical preparations, soaps, toilets, perfumery, articles of iron and steel, brushes, papers, strawboards, glass, enamel, wire, buttons, furniture, ayurvedic medicines, leather, biscuits, raincoats, motorhood, cloth, fireproof cloth and transparent oil silk, waterproofs and other preparations too numerous to be mentioned. The big industrial houses of Tatas and Sarabhai were also represented. Exhibits of cottage industries such as the world famous Patola, Masbro, Oil colour, printed Chagarapat, Sinkheda lacquer work, cloths, dyed, printed or dyed (Badhani), nut crackers, brass and copper utensils of Baroda, Dabhoi, Visnagar wood carved animal figures and brass stools of Visnagar, Lodra, Pilvai, Kakerwada and Baroda proved of great interest to the visitors. Kathiawar embroidery with silk yarn and glass

circles and various articles of house decoration prepared in artistic fashion was a noteworthy feature of women's work. The Chinnabai Stri Udyogalay and other women's institutions of the Baroda State contributed to the splendour of this Exhibition by collecting exhibits of delicate needle work, stitch work, embroidery and other attractive specimens of handicraft. Paper cut figures prepared by Mr. Ramprasad Jadia of Patan attracted special notice.

The exhibition was a great success, the average daily attendance being about ten thousand. A special committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Lady Protima Mitter, wife of the Dewan of Baroda, to make all arrangements regarding the exhibition. Besides the exhibits mentioned above, the two other main attractions of the exhibition were entertainment programme and the restaurants. A special theatre was put up inside the exhibition and a daily changing variety programme of entertainment was very successfully staged. The exhibition mentioned above was first of its kind in the sense that it confined itself to industries in Baroda State and areas attached to it.

It was revealed by Sir Brojendra Mitter, the Dewan, at the time of the prize distribution ceremony that the exhibition had proved such a great success that H. H. the Maharaja Gaekwar is thinking of making it an annual feature.



Hirabai Barodekar is one of the most fascinating personalities in the world of Indian music. A disciple of the late Khan Sahib Abdul Karim and Ustad Abdul Wahid Khan, Hirabai represents all that is best in the Kirana style and is a superb exponent of classical ragas. She excels in the interpretation of *Bhojan*.

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JUNE 1946

[No. 6.]

THE UNIVERSITY IN THE ATOMIC AGE

By PROF. R. S. MACNICOL

SPEAKING recently at a meeting in London, Mr. Norman Makin, President of the UNO Security Council said: "We live in an age of miracles, yet the very things that were for our enrichment and well-being are used by man for our destruction and have brought tragedy and tears because man has not developed his spiritual qualities in keeping with the scientific and technical advances of this age. Until we can develop in the life of the people that better, higher resolve, I am afraid we shall continue to fail. The great spiritual forces that God alone can give must fire the life of every man, woman and child if we are to attain a better and secure world."

This is the problem, and it is being voiced by many leaders of public opinion today. Is there any answer? Can we say that the modern University, which has made possible the discovery of nuclear energy, has any contribution to make towards the control and right use of that energy? Can our education, in the words of Mr. Makin, develop man's spiritual qualities in keeping with the scientific and technical advances of this age?

In ancient days in India, there was no divorce between the material and the spiritual, and the *Sishya* learned the relation

between the two in the course of his education. Plato, in his day, saw that the fate of any political scheme depended on the characters of those who worked it, and he realised that if right characters were to be formed, then there must be right education, by which men might learn to distinguish between good and evil, and aim at the highest good. It is the failure of the modern university that it has trained men to the highest degree intellectually, but left them morally and emotionally illiterate. To-day it is possible for a man to measure and handle, the vast resources of the universe in his laboratory, while yet he is quite untrained in the moral and spiritual power to use these tremendous forces rightly, so that they answer the real needs of mankind. Sir Richard Livingstone, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, in a recent article to "New World News", describes the contribution of the modern university in these words:

"In one sense, of course, their influence is obvious and immense. In their capacity as discoverers and organizers of knowledge, they have brought our civilization into being. But having given birth to it, they desert their child. Its gravest problem is moral and spiritual, and what effect has the university on the spiritual and moral

life of the world? Or even its political life, so far as this is determined by spiritual and moral forces? In the last 20 years two new conceptions of life have changed the course of the world—communism and Nazism. Universities have not created or moulded them. Like mercenaries they have served the rulers of the day in Russia, Germany* and Italy, supplied them with weapons and asked no questions.

If this is true of the ancient universities of the West, it is even more true of the Colleges in India which have so closely modelled themselves on the English system of higher education. No doubt they have achieved some success in producing scientists of the highest distinction as also scholars who have unquestionably taken their place in the front rank of the world's philosophers and economists, but where they have conspicuously failed is in inculcating a true sense of values such as would provide the dynamic for a new culture. Mahatma Gandhi has demonstrated the power of truth and non-violence to mankind; can we say that the universities have played their part in training even for the arts of peace?

It is sometimes said that only with the coming of an independent India will there be that reorientation of outlook which will provide the spiritual force adequate for the problems ahead. But even now we need men who have the moral courage and the intellectual honesty to face the problems of an independent nation. And as soon as that independence comes, can the universities, in a nation where the cultures of Hindu and Muslim, of Christian and Sikh bring diversity and richness into the common heritage,

be universities, teaching an outlook which will bring all these into one noble harmony—and one that will express a fuller and more creative human life? It must be an outlook, a philosophy that will teach men to appreciate the good in others, to recognise that the good of others is their own good. It must be one which recognises that the true foundations of individual as of international life are laid upon standards of honesty and selflessness, recognised as being equally binding upon all men. Above all it must be a philosophy which puts obedience to God before every other loyalty to family, nation or race.

It is not lack of knowledge of these things that leads man into destruction, but lack of power to use that knowledge for good, for the building of peace. As it has been well said, 'The greatest menace to a new world is not pilotless planes, but pilotless brains.' Can the university produce 'piloted brains', men who have not merely the finely trained intellect needed for the social and scientific problems of to-day, but also the spiritual impetus that will turn men away from self-interest, to wards the true, the God-given values of life?

It must be obvious that new schemes, new curricula will not do what is needed; the answer lies in the quality of life lived by the teacher. Where there is a College or a University whose members have learned something of the secret, the art of living, there the students will catch the fire of it and begin to learn it for themselves. It was men like Erasmus and Colet who sent out students across Europe at the time of the Renaissance 'to awaken the dead.'

It is one of the hopeful signs of the present time that during the last ten years such a movement has been taking root in the Universities and has linked them in some measure, through the new quality of life lived by teachers and by students, with the great problems of the age. From Oxford it sent students out to South Africa with the fire of a new awakening, and wherever they went, as the late C. F. Andrews noted, they brought a better understanding, and a new relationship between white and coloured peoples. From Uppsala in Sweden, it sent students out into the industrial areas to help in the problems of management and labour. They crossed the Baltic to Finland before War broke out, and played a considerable part in building friendship between the two nations. Describing the work of this movement, the late Dr. B. H. Streeter, Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, said, "This movement seems to be able not merely to change bad people into good, but also to give new heart and a new courage and a new sense of direction to those who are already men of good will. That is why I have come to the conclusion that in an age of growing world despair it is my duty to associate myself with it."

In Yenching University, China, news comes of students living this new quality of life, so that when arrested and crowded together in a Japanese prison they sang and told stories to cheer their fellow-prisoners; and they were able, on their release, to carry to their friends an attitude that was completely free of hatred towards the Japanese, and to go out, after completing their medical

studies, to a life-work among the poor in the villages.

Coming nearer home, a student from a South Indian College speaks of his own change of heart, and tells of how others caught fire from it. "Naturally" he writes, "I could not keep such splendid developments to myself. I told about these things to my friends, sometimes because I was so happy, sometimes because of morning guidance. They found this very interesting and wanted to see if they too could receive this new life. So our group grew in number; Christians, Hindus, all found that this new way of living made them happier and more effective. When the College closed for the Summer holidays we were about 25 in number." Among these twenty-five what was note-worthy was that they represented different communities in South India, and had developed a real capacity to work together; they further stood for an altogether higher standard of honesty and responsibility in social life, which showed itself in their refusal to have anything to do with such things as malicious gossip, dishonest work, train-travel without tickets, and so on; and they had found a transforming, untiring purpose in life, through learning that God had a plan in which each could share, if they were prepared to listen to His voice each day, and to obey the directions given them.

Obviously there is no short cut to such things. What is fundamental is a relationship between the teacher and the student which is *dynamic*; such that they are able to seek God's direction together, and to face their own needs in the light of those moral standards which are the divinely-ordered foundations for human life. Such relationships must lead to the formation, within every university, of cells of moral and spiritual power, knowledge and power subordinated to the direction of God. Teacher and Student, led by God can find the kind of unity and illumination that is given by obedience to the spirit. This is the true end of education.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF INDIAN ART

BY MR S N CHAKRAVARTI, M A, BOMBAY

GUITA ART

THE Guptas formed a great national dynasty, which appeared in Bihar in A.D. 320 and put an end to the rule of the various foreign dynasties in Northern India. Samudragupta (330-380) and his son Chandragupta II (380-412) established an empire which embraced the whole of Northern India as far as the Narmada river. The Gupta Empire lasted until the Huna invasions towards the end of the fifth century.

The Gupta Emperors were Brahmanists but they were tolerant to other faiths. The Gupta period is marked by efflorescence in literature and art. Through Kalidasa, who flourished at the court of Chandragupta II, the legendary Vikramaditya, drama and poetry reached their acme. Sculptural art, at the same time, reached its full fruition.

ARTISTIC ANATOMY IN GUITA ART

The characteristic features in early Indian plastic art were spontaneous naturalism and simplicity. In the age of the Guptas these qualities were brought under the constraint of reason. Necessarily Gupta art lost much of the genuine naivete of early Indian art and consequently the latter's powerful charm, but it gained in qualities which appealed to the conscious intellect as well as to the subconscious aesthetic sense in symmetry and proportion, for example, in the structural propriety of its form, in the reasoned restraint of ornament and in the definition of detail. Gupta art, however, did not copy Greek classicism, which had degenerated into commonplace in the Graeco-Buddhist art of Gandhara in North

Western India (50 B.C.-A.D. 500). It created for itself a new classicism, which was a living one. "Gupta art based its plastic conventions not only upon a knowledge of Indian costume and of the sub-tropical life, but also upon an understanding of the Indian body itself." It did away with the thick garment with folds in bold relief because the Indian body was accustomed to transparent muslin. Henceforth the drapery was indicated either by liquid undulations or by delicate grooves along the neck, wrists and ankles, the effect in either case being that of a diaphanous robe clinging to the body as though wet. The softness and suppleness of the body were attained by expressing its proportions, not by the geometrical criteria of the Greek, but in imitation of the curves of plants and animals. Thus the face was oval in shape, resembling an egg or a betel leaf. The forehead had the form of a bow. The eye brows were like the leaves of a neem tree or like a bow. The playful glance of a woman's eyes was like the wagtail, their restless glance like the eyes of the *saphiri* fish and their soft glance like the eyes of a roe. The eyes of divinities were like the lotus leaf or like the water lily. The chin resembled the mangostone. The neck exhibited the form of a conch. The trunk, from just below the neck to the abdomen, formed like the neck of the cow thus suggesting the strength of the chest, the slimness of the waist and the soft and folded character of the skinfoldings near the abdomen. The shoulder was curved like the head of an elephant and the arms like its trunk. The

forearms resembled the trunk of a young plantain tree. The fingers resembled the bean-pod, and the hands and feet were like the lotus or like the young leaves of plants. There were three bodily poses, *samabhangā* (erect), *abhangā* (slight bending) and *tribhangā* (three bendings). In the *abhangā* pose the body would form a graceful curve, the torso inclining slightly towards one side and the weight of the body resisting on one leg and one hip being higher than the other. In the *tribhangā* pose the body would be in a zig-zag. In female figures in the *tribhangā* pose the head would incline towards the right, the bust towards the left, while the legs to the right. The pose of male figures would be the exact opposite, the head leaning towards the left and so forth.

SPIRITUALISM IN GUPTA ART

In another important feature, also, the art of the Gupta period differed from early Indian art. In the early period art merely expressed the legends and history of its faith. But "in the Gupta age a closer contact was established between thought and art, and sculptor and painter alike essayed to give articulate expression to their spiritual and emotional ideas by translating them into terms of form and colour". In Indian sculptural art of the Kushana period (A.D. 50-320) the figures of Buddha and Bodhisattvas show wide open eyes, looking outward, the eyes of the Gupta Buddha and Bodhisattva figures, half-shut, look inward, signifying the mind absorbed in the exercise of virtues, such as compassion, meditation, etc. Thus the Gupta Buddha and Bodhisattva figures

combine beauty of anatomical definition with a spirit of calm and peaceful contemplation while the Kushana Buddha and Bodhisattva figures are heavy and unspiritual.

The spiritualism in Gupta art is reflected not only on the face but also in finger gesture (*mudrā*) and seated posture (*asana*). The latter includes the hieratic seated postures of *padmasana* (lotus-seat), *virasana* (hero's seat), *yogasana* (seated posture of meditation), and *sukhasana* (postures of ease). Among the finger gestures, one is of *dhyana* (meditation) a second of *varāda* (giving or charity), a third of *abhaya* (protection), a fourth of *vitarka* (discussion), a fifth of *dharmachakra* (preaching), a sixth of *bhūmisparsa* (touching the earth), and a seventh of *anjali* (salutation).

EXAMPLES OF GUPTA STATUARY

Some of the more important examples of Gupta statuary may be mentioned here. The standing Buddha figure, 7'2" high, in red sandstone, from the Jamalpur (Jail) mound, Mathura, now in the Mathura Museum, is attired in a loose diaphanous robe with delicate fold lines and has a profusely decorated halo around the head. The figure is not only well defined and symmetrical in outline but also expressive of calm contemplation and repose. Another important specimen is the preaching Buddha figure in Chunar sandstone from Sarnath, now in the Sarnath Museum. As compared with the Buddha figure of Mathura the Sarnath Buddha is more spiritual because of the greater delicacy in the execution of the eyes with drooping lids which exactly resemble the waterlily. Another point of difference between the two is that the Sarnath Buddha is almost nude, draped as

it is in a closely fitting diaphanous robe without fold lines. Among other examples of Gupta statuary we may mention the standing Buddha in copper 7' 6' high, from Sultanganj (Bengal) now in the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, and the standing Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva in Chunar sandstone from Sarnath now in the Sarnath Museum. The former is attired in a loose diaphanous robe with fold lines and the right hand makes the gesture of offering protection. The latter wears scarf and a closely fitting diaphanous robe without fold lines carries the *dhyan* Buddha Amitabha in the headgear, and holds a lotus flower in the left hand and makes the gesture of imparting bounty by the right hand.

GUPTA PAINTING

The art of painting also reached its culmination in the Gupta period. At Ajanta in the Hyderabad State there are no less than twenty six Buddhist caves, adorned with a large number of mural frescoes representing in the main episodes relating to Buddha's life and pre births, dating from various periods. The earliest of these frescoes are those in Caves IX and X, executed in the second first century B C under the early Andhra kings. The costume, especially the head dress, in this series, recalls that represented at Bharhut and Sanchi. Painting of the Gupta period is preserved in Caves XVI, XVII and XIX, executed in the fifth century under the reign of the little local dynasty of the Vakatakas who were connected by blood with the Imperial Gupta rulers. The last series is made up of the frescoes of Caves IV and XXI-XXVI. In the later

painting of Ajanta from the Gupta period onwards the old naturalism of Sanchi and Bharhut is spiritualized, the artists painted life as they saw it and yet it was not in a mode opposition to spirituality. The figures of Bodhisattvas, *e.g.*, the Great Bodhisattva in Cave I, are shown not only in the enjoyment of refined luxury of the world but also preoccupied with deep compassion.

Another group of Buddhist mural frescoes is found in the caves at Bagh in the Gwalior State. The frescoes of Bagh, which may date from the close of the seventh century, display a strong resemblance in style to those in Caves I and II of Ajanta. But the Bagh frescoes do not appear to be exclusively Buddhist like those of Ajanta. They include subjects, such as musical dramas accompanied by dances, entirely profane to Buddhism. This shows that Buddhism was on the decline, while Brahmanism was on the ascendancy. From the third century B C to the seventh century A D Buddhism played a great role in the evolution of Indian civilization, and particularly in the history of art. This period was not one of inactivity, but of intense and creative activity, for Brahmanical culture, for the epics the two bibles of Brahmanical legend, seem to have taken their definitive form at the period when Buddhism was most in vogue, between the third century B C and the second century A D. From the eighth century onwards Brahmanism came to the forefront and gradually eliminated Buddhism or else absorbed it.

DECLINE OF GUPTA ART

Gupta art survived the fall of the Empire, and its influence was felt all over

Northern India, and the Deccan and even in Ceylon. Its keynote, as we have already noticed, was spiritualism. The keynote of mediaeval art was supernaturalism. Thus, from the seventh century onwards cult images became endowed with multitudinous arms and heads. The supernaturalism became more and more predominant, with the result that cult images became after the twelfth century mere symbols of religion devoid of spirituality. Also, they gradually lost the

beauty of definition, and became stereotyped and artificial. Architecture became, on the contrary, imposing, and it lost its aesthetic quality; for the ornamentation is in such inordinate quantity that it often wearies the eye. The reasoned restraint which the Gupta artist had applied in ornamentation was abandoned for unrestrained indulgence, with the result that over-ornamentation and complexity of design buried the dominant lines of construction and composition.

A PATRIOTIC MUSLIM

By "A HINDU POLITICIAN"

MR. AZIM HUSAIN, the talented son of Fazl-i-Husain has not only discharged a filial duty but has also done a distinct public service by writing this excellent biography* of his father. Fazli besides dominating the political life of the Punjab for over two decades, played an active part in shaping Muslim policy during that period with great circumspection and care. To those who did not know him intimately Fazli was a communalist, anti-Hindu, anti-national, and anti-Congress. A careful perusal of this book, particularly the extracts from his diaries, letters to his friends and his correspondence with the Viceroy in his official capacity, will reveal how unfounded have been the accusations against him.

There is in this book enough material to facilitate a correct understanding of the Muslim mind. And as Mr. Rajagopalachari truly observes in his Foreword:

Hindus cannot fully understand and perform their national duties unless they note the work-

ings of the best minds among Mussalmans and acquaint themselves truly with their aspirations, their doubts and their difficulties.

This political biography contains ample evidence to show how farsighted and keen Fazli was, how he loved and took pride in being an Indian and how he endeavoured his best to assert his authority as a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council.

Though he was anxious and did a great deal for the rehabilitation of the Muslims yet he was careful not to do any injustice to claimants to office from other communities. He preferred Indians to Europeans, and among Indians the only criterion was efficiency. A typical instance of his just attitude in this respect was his successful fight with the then Viceroy for the appointment of Mr. (now Sir) Girija Shankar Bajpai as the Secretary to his department. The Viceroy was strongly against Bajpai, cajoled Fazli to take a Muslim and when that was not possible, suggested taking an Englishman instead. But Fazli took a firm stand and had his own way.

*FAZL-I-HUSAIN: A political Biography. With a Foreword by C. Rajagopalachari. Rs. 15. Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd.

Again, when it was pressed on him that a Muslim should be appointed as the High Commissioner for India in London, Fazli wrote the following remarkable letter to Sir Abdur Quadir

In the matter of filling appointments the Viceroy has been thinking of discharging his commitments to individual Muslims rather than fill the posts more suitably and if in every case he had succeeded the result would have been from the Muslim point of view disastrous. It is in the best interests of the Muslim community as well as of the Government that a man who would fill the Post (High Commissioner for India) suitably and be a credit to the post should fill it and it should not be felt that he is intellectually and culturally much below the standard of his two distinguished predecessors otherwise it will do no credit to the Muslim community in the eyes of the public men in England and in Europe.

Fazli was strongly against organising Muslims on purely communal lines. Throughout his public career he stuck to this view and was quite content with adequate safeguards for the Muslims. He resisted Mr Jinnah's move to organise the Muslims on a communal basis. That is why he formed the 'Unionist' Party in the Punjab.

While on his mission to South Africa as the head of the Indian delegation he publicly declared

I recognise no other representative organisation of Indians in South Africa than the South African Indian National Congress. We as Hindus and Muslims may have our differences in India but in South Africa we are all Indians and we should behave like Indians.

He ever thought of India as a whole and believed in the growth and development of a strong, united and vigorous nation. It was his firm conviction that safe

guards for Muslims were to be regarded as a temporary expedient to be retained until such time as Muslims were able 'to stand on a level with other communities'. Here is a compliment paid to him by Prof Gulshan Roy his most fierce opponent. Urging him to give a proper lead to the politics of the Punjab:

You possess a strength of will which few other political leaders in this Province possess. Among the Muslims I should think you are perhaps the only one at the present moment who could curb and keep in check the communal ambitions of your community.

It must be mentioned to his credit that in all his controversies and speeches in the Council, Fazli never descended to the abuse of his opponent nor did he say at any time anything derisive of the Hindus. It was always his desire to bring the Hindus and the Muslims and the Sikhs together and form a Ministry composed of representatives of all communities.

Fazli was a congressman till that great body resorted to non co operation, for in his opinion non co operation and civil disobedience were not suitable means to bring India nearer the goal of becoming an independent self respecting nation. To use the words of his son Azim himself

'A certain rigidity of mind and inability to attach sufficient importance to idealism made Lazi I-Hussain underestimate the value of the emotional appeal of the Civil Disobedience movement. In this respect he made no contribution to the cause of Indian nationalism, and on a few occasions his policies damaged it.'

This book will be found to be the most revealing commentary of the period and events which it covers and has an urgent message at this critical moment in India's history.

RUSSIAN FOREIGN POLICY—AN APOLOGY

BY MR. BAHAJ KRISHAN

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"PEACE has merely lifted the lid that covered a seething cauldron." Diplomatic strife among the Allies has taken the place of active hostilities between the belligerent groups. The Allied front, which functioned so admirably during the war, shows, not surprisingly, signs of cracking up. For the unity among the Allies was based merely on the negative aim of defeating the Axis; and with the attainment of that limited objective, the need for unity has declined.

The problem of Russian Foreign Policy is primarily a problem of Anglo-Soviet relations. The two countries are levelling charges and counter-charges against each other. Russia is being painted as the arch-imperialist which is outdoing its Czarist predecessors. Stalin's Russia is said to have revived the temporarily dormant imperialism in the Near, Middle and the Far East on a grand scale in all its phases *pari-passu*. In Central and South-Eastern Europe, Russia is accused of supporting anti-democratic, one party Communist regimes; of tying them to Soviet economy and ending their economic independence. She is trying to secure interest in the Mediterranean by obtaining a seat in the Tangier Control Commission; by trying to force a revision of the Montreux Convention and staking a claim over Tripolitania. In the Middle East she has been accused of trying to instal the pro-Russian, Leftist Persian elements in power by engineering a separatist movement in Northern Iran. She is also reported to have supported the Lebanon vis-a-vis France and England. In Bevin's phrase "Russia is reaching across our throats". The Soviet seems to be extending her influence in the Far East, claiming a more effective voice in the Pacific and has forced the U.S. to agree to a Control Commission for Japan. Her clandestine hand is suspected in the Chinese Civil War. And this apparent revival

of Russian imperialism comes in a post-war world profoundly different from that of its predecessor. Russia is no longer that gouty giant sprawling over vast frigid lands with a corrupt and decadent government. She is not the empty nightmare of the nineteenth century, while Britain is a poor specimen of a lion. The Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Ottoman Empire exist only in history books. Japan is completely crushed.

Russia, on the contrary charges Britain and America with being led by reactionary anti-Communist politicians who are trying to build an anti-Russian Western bloc. It also accuses the Western Allies of carrying on anti-Communist propaganda and supporting reactionary forces in Central and South-East Europe. Britain has suppressed the Communist forces in Greece. Britain is not respecting the splendid principles for which the war was fought. The British continue to maintain their forces in Egypt* and Palestine in flagrant disregard of the wishes of inhabitants. Events in Indonesia, Indo-China, and India are a sad commentary on the Atlantic Charter.

The crescendo of controversy reached its climax in the historic Churchill-Stalin duel. Churchill in his Foulton, Musserrie speech identified Communist, in countries outside Russia, with Fifth Column and described Communism as a growing challenge and peril to Christian Civilization. He charged Russia with trying to establish police regimes in South-Eastern and Central Europe and asked: What are the limits, if any, to the expansive and proselytising tendencies of Soviet Russia and Communist parties? To meet the potential danger to peace from that country, he advocated a fraternal association of the Anglo-Saxon peoples.

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of Russian imperialism comes in a post-war world profoundly different from that of its predecessor. Russia is no longer that gouty giant sprawling over vast frigid lands with a corrupt and decadent government. She is not the empty nightmare of the nineteenth century, while Britain is a poor specimen of a lion. The Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Ottoman Empire exist only in history books. Japan is completely crushed.

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The crescendo of controversy reached its climax in the historic Churchill-Stalin duel. Churchill in his Foulton, Musscorrie speech identified Communist, in countries outside Russia, with Fifth Column and described Communism as a growing challenge and peril to Christian Civilization. He charged Russia with trying to establish police regimes in South-Eastern and Central Europe and asked: What are the limits, if any, to the expansive and proselytising tendencies of Soviet Russia and Communist parties? To meet the potential danger to peace from that country, he advocated a fraternal association of the Anglo-Saxon peoples.

Stalin returned the attack and matched Churchill's strong denunciation of Russia by an equally bitter and incisive invective.

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He dubbed Churchill as a war monger and a mischief maker trying to vitiate Anglo-Soviet relations. He likened Churchill to a new Hitler trying to impose Anglo Saxon hegemony over the world.

This mutual suspicion of the Allies is the gloomy legacy of the past. It is merely another phase of the historic conflict between the Bear and the Lion which has waged intermittently since the French Revolution. Broadly speaking, Czarist imperialism had three phases. Its historic mission through the centuries had been the domination of South Eastern Europe and securing a free access to the Mediterranean. Baulked at by the Austro Hungarian and Ottoman Empires and Britain, Russia turned towards the Middle East. Here she came up against the British Empire which again diverted the stream of Russian expansion to the Far East, where it was frustrated by the hostility of Japan and Great Britain. Only in face of overwhelming danger to their existence, have these combatants left the arena temporarily. The *Drang Nach Osten* (and also the German Naval development so far as Britain was concerned) before the last war made them come together only to revert to their old antagonism as soon as Germany had been laid low. History has repeated herself with surprising similarity to day. To this historic hostility have been added the consequences of the bitter experience which the first proletarian revolution had unfortunately to taste. The poisonous atmosphere in which the Soviet State came to birth and grew could not but distort the outlook of those who controlled its destinies. The Russian Civil War was unnecessarily protracted and embittered by the help which England and France rendered to the Whites. Communist Russia was for long time to come regarded as a pariah and was refused admission into the League of Nations till 1929. The Locarno Pact while ensuring peace to the signatories left Eastern Europe to itself. The Zinoviev letters, a fabricated piece of party intrigue, and the Metro Vickers trial only tended to

discredit Russia in the eyes of the world. To save themselves and European civilization and culture, the ruling and propertied classes of France and Britain did their best in rearing Nazi Germany and egging it on to turn East on a religious crusade and saving Europe from submergence under atheistic, soulless, Communist flood. The capitalist powers left no stone unturned in their campaign of vilifying Russia and painting it in most sombre colours. The Western press must bear a good deal of responsibility for the ignorance, doubt and fear which Russia inspires in the world. Every Russian deviation from strict communist theory in its march towards a fuller practical Communism was hailed as heralding the imminent destruction of the Communist ark. Russian statesmen were pictured as scheming revolutionaries and downright scoundrels. The intensely Russo-phobic atmosphere of the days of Imperial Czars, wherein disparaging remarks were flung at Russia—"He who supps with the Devil must have a long spoon"—"Scratch a Russian and find a Tartar", was inevitably projected into the post 1918 period.

Finding themselves in so hostile a world, the Russian politicians blanketed Russia in a thick wall of secrecy to prevent the confidence of the people being undermined by anti Soviet propaganda. They were taught to believe that Russia was happy and prosperous while capitalist countries were corrupt and decadent, where the mass of the people lived on the verge of starvation, and who were always conspiring to overthrow the Soviet regime. To this must be added the rigid dogmatism and intensely parochial outlook of the Soviet leaders which rendered intellectual co-operation between Russia and the comparatively liberal West almost impossible.

With this background of mutual suspicion and hatred, the existing diplomatic muddle is not difficult to understand. The moment the war time restraint has disappeared, the English and American press have lost no time in reverting to

their old game of misrepresenting Russia. The surrender of Germany, found the English and American journalists praising the Russian zone of occupation for its comparative freedom of political activity and from hunger and misery. But with the passage of time all was changed. The Russian administration, which was held up as a model for her other allies to copy, was now a byword for squalid misery, hunger and want. The Russians were charged with frightfully brutal treatment towards the Germans, while the British and American zones of Administrations were said to be inspired by a benevolent liberal outlook. At the San Francisco Conference, Russia was held up as the villain of the piece. The failure of the London Conference tended to create the impression that Russian intransigence was responsible for that unfortunate sequel. The reiteration of the old bogey of Communist menace to Christian civilization quite justifiably emphasises on the Russian mind the need for defensive frontiers. But even after taking into account this spate of propaganda, one cannot say that Russian policy has been above reproach. In S.E. Europe a thick veil of secrecy, has been imposed on all news Communist minority parties have saddled themselves into power with the help of Russian bayonets. Large Russian armies are living on the lands of small poor countries like Austria, Hungary and Rumania and thereby further crippling their already seriously dislocated economy, making their return to normality extremely difficult. The Armenian irredentism and Russian claims to Kars and Ardhan have a sinister similarity to the pre-war Nazi expansionist technique. The Azerbaijanian self-determination was reminiscent of the Austrian plebiscite after the Anschlusss.

But the British cupboard has its own skeletons. In Palestine she is callously following the policy of forcing unwelcome guests on the Arabs under the garb of humanitarian work in service of persecuted Jews, while vast spaces of

Canada and Australia lie uninhabited. In Persia she, at first, refused to withdraw her troops unless the Russians withdrew unmindful of the fact that one wrong did not justify another. In Burma the anti-Japanese, anti-Fascist underground party has been left in the cold because it is also anti-imperialist. In Indonesia and Indo-China she has helped the Dutch and the French, in the name of law and order and of restoration of legitimate sovereign rights, to reimpose their slavery on the people because freedom is highly infectious and there are weak spots in the British Empire nearby. The U.S.A. seems to be giving Britain her tacit support in this ignoble attempt to restore the *status quo ante bellum*. The U.N.R.R.A. looks like an ingenious device of economic imperialism which makes America pose "as Santa Claus to distressed humanity".

Truth is not the absolute monopoly either of Britain and America or of Russia. Considering the hostility of the capitalist world which attended the birth of the first Communist experiment on a large scale and in which the present day statesmen were brought up, considering the treatment meted out to the U.S.S.R. in the inter-war period, and the magnitude of the British imperial as well as economic interests at stake, one can understand their inability to appreciate each other's viewpoint. Britain very legitimately desires to maintain or restore her pre-war imperial position. But Russia, which found her energies cramped till 1939, now finds opportunity to act in a way which is unfavourable to her Allies.

Russia's present 'riding rough-shod' diplomacy, her bullying and brusque tactics in Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Persia which found their dramatic expression in her withdrawal from the Security Council when the Russo-Persian dispute was brought before it, is the result partly of geography and largely of history. Rigours of climate and the lack of diplomatic finesse and suavity in the proletarian diplomats which come naturally to diplomats recruited from hereditary aristocracy, may explain it

partly That Russia had lain outside the main stream of European culture may be another reason But the main fact appears to be that the Russian people have been an unfortunate people in history Never till now have the Russians known a 'real' victory They always came off badly in their conflicts with great powers The French Revolutionary Armies triumphantly swept through Europe and the Russians were repeatedly rolled back by Napoleonic legions The Crimean War proved that the Russian colossus had feet of clay In 1878 she had the doubtful glory of defeating the sick man of Europe and much of it was eclipsed by the doughty resistance put up by the Turks at Plevna And to Russia's chagrin the meagre fruits of the costly victory were snatched away at the Berlin Conference In 1905 the world was staggered at the defeat of Russia at the hands of a small power like Japan—a nation just emerging from primitive barbarism The last war came as a painful *dénouement* to this long tragic history which ended in sweeping away the Zamanos Such a long uninterrupted inglorious past could not but have a very adverse effect on the Russian psychology Seldom could a Russian statesman boast of having won laurels on the field of battle The Powers could treat Russia with contempt and defy with impunity A kind of national gloom seems to have settled down on the Russian mind all these years, and it suffered from an inevitable introversion which only has made it difficult for Russians to understand others It is only now that Russia has won a great victory over the world's greatest and most efficient land power From mental depression there has been a sudden swing towards overweening confidence to a new and almost an apocalyptic realization of her giant strength—that alone explains her highhanded diplomacy and her exaggeration of her great achievements in war One cannot interpret in any other way Stalin's announcement of victory

over Japan, "The Defeat of 1905 is avenged"

The Russo Japanese War was an important step forward in the growth of the Bolshevik party, through its immediate sequel was the unfortunate Bloody Sunday It hastened the downfall of Czarism—an enemy of all progressive forces For a Russian Communist to lament over the defeat of the Czarist Russia in 1905 is as ridiculous as his lament over the Russian defeat in 1916 but for which Communism might have been postponed in Russia indefinitely Such a paradoxical attitude of Stalin can only be explained with reference to the necessity of feeding the *amour propre* of Russians which has remained atrophied so long and the necessity for which has been intensified since Russian Communism shed its internationalism Nor can one interpret the aggressiveness and awkwardness of her diplomacy in any other way Russia is behaving like that child who has been inhibited and despised all along and who suddenly finds freedom and confidence to do whatever it pleases The only way to deal with Russia is to give adequate recognition to her new found strength by a fuller appreciation of her sacrifices and her achievements The days are past when other powers could belittle and flout her No longer, can Britain point to the mote in another eye while ignoring the beam in her own The recent conflict in the Security Council between Russia and Britain showed that the only justification that Russia found for her actions in Azerbaijan was the licence the British had to behave similarly elsewhere in Greece, Indonesia and Syria England must have a fair assessment of her own strength in a world led by America and the U S S R And the only way to improve relations with Russia is to democratize her Empire and stand by the principles of the Atlantic Charter whereby alone can be brought to bear an overwhelming and almost irresistible moral influence on Russia to mend her ways

SCIENCE AND POSTWAR ADMINISTRATION

BY PROF. SHANTI SWARUP, M.A., M.Sc.,

SCIENCE HERITAGE FOR ALL

IN this pre-eminently scientific age a first hand acquaintance with scientific methods and principles may reasonably be expected as an essential element in liberal education. Yet Science is not a recognised part of a good general education. It is not even an essential part of the higher (and secondary) education of those few from whom the leaders of the future are likely to emerge.

TRUE EDUCATION

A curriculum for adolescents should include education in all aspects, ethical, physical, scientific and cultural. It should aim at a composite and all embracing training. Such training alone will befit an individual to his environment. Science has undoubtedly made valuable contribution to the modern world culture. Science has opened a vista of glorious purpose to be shared by all mankind. Science has made living healthier. Surgery drugs and preventive medicine have saved lives and untold misery. Modern scientific inventions have revolutionised communications. The use of science in daily life has made life comfortable and has helped banish drudgery from life. Application of science in home and national service is the most essential need of country.

UNSCIENTIFIC BASIC OF LIFE

Our national health is deplorable. Hygiene is most backward. The benefits of modern surgery and medicine have touched only the fringe of the population. Our industries are un-developed. Whatever industries exist are most in—efficiently run. Their products can't compete in the international market. Profiteering rather than satisfaction seems to be their guiding principle. Lasting industry could never be built like that. Our agriculture is least productive as it does not tolerate science. Training in Science alone would enable a person to establish close contact with the industrial, commercial, agricultural and practical organisation of the country..

POPULARISATION OF SCIENCE

Education should enable a person to do well what he has to do and without a real education which should include scientific training and scientific knowledge a person is not fitted to do a thing properly,—far less do it better. We should investigate systematically and truly all that comes under our observation. We should be trained for this. It is claimed, and with large degree of truth, that science in its various branches, has put those things which the individual wants namely food, work, security and freedom within the reach of all. The methods and ideas of science must become the dominant forces of thought and action in the near future.

TALK VS. ACTION

The bane of Indian public life is that talk is substituted for action. In advocating much more teaching of general science and scientific method throughout the secondary school and in Colleges, I mean the scientific habit of thought and work and not mere scientific knowledge. The practical man affects to despise theory, but he has a fairly intimate knowledge of his materials, gained by long experience in practice. While he is really practical his methods are not far different from those of Science. We want men who are practical—who practise Science and scientific method in their lives in all walks of life. The average Indian student is a good crammer. His teacher has passed through that stage and he is not free from that universal fault. I raise my voice against this unpractical teaching of Science too. For this alone will constitute an indispensable preliminary to the epochal transformation of our social structure.

AFTER THE WAR

The function of Science, in the postwar period, is conceived to be the constant inspiration of Governments. The application of Science means the rational use of known data towards the amelioration of human conditions that waited long to

come into its own as the major influence in government Ruling and governments are tradition ridden in the history and economic inspired governments, which pave the way to aggressive nationalisation and are themselves quite inefficient. The civilisation has been saved by the men whose chief talent is the manipulation of what is called Science. Science should be given its due in the planning of peace. Why should Science be considered only when the economic ridden politicians want to degenerate it as their willing tool for winning the war?

SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Science has given us new building technique, new methods of housing, transport, raising and preservation of food and combating of disease. War has helped in the creation of an entirely new outlook on Science by Society. Now the scientist is acknowledged as a man who has his task to organise the relations between nature and his fellow beings and to give them the power to control. This can be achieved by the co-ordination of all sciences on the largest possible scale. Public affairs in the future must be controlled by the men of science.

The ordinary citizen and the civil servants must be given an insight into science. State and public activities must be organised. In the experience of every country it has been found for example that the cheapest and most certain method of combating poverty has been found to be the acquisition of useful knowledge as speedily as possible. This requires planning. Planning is imperative for peace. But planning and development cannot be undertaken without proper scientific knowledge or scientific consultation. The planned programme will be halted at every step if the teaching of science and its understanding does not form the basis of our educational system.

Prof Harold Laski has quite aptly said "We must shape the minds of the post war generations in such a way that administration, at the highest level, can be

undertaken only by men with a sound knowledge of scientific methods, instead of such men in the civil service, as clerks with special qualification. Many of our greatest scientist could hold their own with the best of the permanent Secretaries of the Treasury." On the other hand it is usually alleged that the scientist is not a good administrator. I think that accusation can be more aptly made against a good many professional administrators. We need now a new type of scientific administration and if it does not exist it must be developed to meet the demands of the time.

SCIENCE AND CIVILISATION

Modern civilisation is based on applied science. Scientists will play an important part in the working of such a society. A report by Prof P. Kapitza, the celebrated Russian physicist to the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences is very suggestive. Why should it not apply to mother India?

'In our socialist country science occupies a special place. Of course it is well known and commonly accepted in the other countries too, that science plays a great role in the development of culture and technology of the country. But in our country science is recognised as one of the essential mainstays of the development of culture and is accorded a leading position in the development of our technology and national economy. For this reason the organisation of science in our country must have a more purposeful character than to be found in other countries where it is rather accidental and spontaneous. The connection between science and life must be close and more complete.' Science must find its right place in the nation building activities of the state in all its phases and departments.

Science should be the necessary equipment of the high level leaders of society. It is high time that scientific method and logical thinking should form the common heritage of all the units of our social, commercial and administrative machinery.

Future of War Time Industries in India

BY PROF. R. V. RAO, M.A.

Head of the Department of Economics, Dharmendrasinhji College, Rajkot.

THE appointment of an interim tariff board to consider the scope of expansion in peace time of wartime industries and the need for protection is, indeed, a welcome sign that something will be done to these industries. A large number of industries have been established in India during the present war and the problem of their change over to peacetime conditions is, no doubt, a difficult one. We must realize that, the transition from war to peace economy in India is different from that of the U. S. A. or U. K. where factories already engaged in the production of goods were converted into war factories. The change over in their case will mean reconversion of these factories for the production of goods required by the civilian population, but in India most of the war industries are new creations and it is feared that, they will be wiped out if adequate protective measures are not taken.

Thus, it can be seen that in our case there is a great need for planned economic development and that is why several people say that we have to take a long-range view of things. Because they have sustained the national economy during a period of exceptional stress and strain, we must protect them. It is well-known that under the stimulus of war, industries like aluminium smelting, ship building, aircraft assembly plant, chemicals, machine tools, wire nails, tool handles, drugs and miscellaneous goods have come into existence in addition of course, to the principal industries like cotton textile, paper, sugar, etc. It is true that, they have done much for the war effort and the government have maintained a strong control over these industries by controls over capital issues, control over transport, control over motive power etc.

But it is unfortunate that when the war was about to come to a close, the government of India showed eagerness to import consumer's goods from other

countries which alarmed the industrialists who are producing them in this country. Now that transition is already on us, we have to consider one fact, namely, the government must come forward with a definite scheme to help the growth of these industries. There is practically no industry, which is not entitled to peacetime, given the time and facilities to establish itself. It is really unfortunate that the government of India did not take up the matter seriously in the beginning. Canada and Australia took prompt steps immediately after the war broke out and that is the reason why industrialization in those countries has proceeded on sound lines. Industries are classified under basic, war-time and others. If the government of India proceeded along these lines and long term and short term measures adopted to save these wartime industries, then things would have been easier during the present period of transition. We are now facing acute competition. Further we must recognize that these industries must get adequate protection. This problem will be discussed a little later.

It is necessary that our war industries should take certain precautions. Strong reserves should be built to provide against difficulties of depression. They should also make provision for the replacement of machinery. In this connection it may be said that the excess profits tax should immediately go. Further rationalization may prove the best way for ensuring a state of full employment. Care should however be taken to prevent over production. Several companies, foreign, of course, are working under the cloak of "Indian limited" and these are bound to be a "perpetual menace to Indian industries" and that is why rationalization is all the more necessary.

An all-round protection is necessary if our wartime industries are to prosper. It does not mean that all the industries

should prosper. In fact the government of India should appoint a fiscal commission to examine a tariff policy and to suggest ways and methods of assisting them. The Government have recently appointed a interim tariff board but the present writer feels that this fulfils limited functions. It has been our experience that *ad hoc* tariff boards of the discriminating protection era have not yielded fruitful results. It would have been better had there been a permanent tariff board and an industrial survey made so that we could have the right vision into the country's future. It is a matter of common knowledge that discriminating protection was really a half hearted compromise and the conditions that (8) the industry must possess natural advantages (2) the industry must be one which without the help of protection would not develop or grow and (3) the industry must be one which will be able to stand competition without protection after sometime could not be satisfied by any one industry. It is well known that the main criticism we can offer is that the fiscal commission of 1921 failed to take a proper view of our industrial position. As Professors Wadia and Merchant rightly say 'never in the history of any country has protection been granted in such a half hearted, reluctant manner as in India a country ailing from all the ills of an unbalanced economy predominantly dependent on agriculture and possessing immense potentialities for industrialization'. It must be said that it is very difficult for an industry to exist itself and again show that it cannot make a headway without protection. Who will go to a doctor when he is healthy? That is why several people say that the industrial backwardness is really created by the artificial process of a forced tariff policy.

What we need is freedom from competition. A long term policy regarding industrial protection is the greatest need. We must know that the principle of free trade will be useful only when nations trade freely on a footing of equality.

Otherwise international trade will be a big farce. The sound basis on which we demand protection is the claim for self sufficiency. It is really unfortunate that the government of India has appointed only the interim tariff board for the definite purpose of considering only the problem of wartime industries. But when problems like Excise duties, foreign markets, imperial preference etc., are irrevocably linked up with the problem of wartime industries, it is doubtful how their recommendations can be of great use. Industrial protection and economic planning are linked together and that is why it is often said that for protection, no tariff period is necessary. The Government of India should have decided to institute a long term tariff inquiry straight away and given protection to war time industries in the meanwhile. As has already been referred to, consumer's goods are already dumped on us, and they are sure to kill many of our nascent industries. It is often said that foreign snows and hair oils are in great demand in India whereas Indian snows are in demand in Iraq and other countries because they are cheap. It passes one's comprehension why we do not support our own Swadeshi products. It is necessary the Government also should consider the question of export markets, etc. and all these can be considered only when they institute a comprehensive tariff inquiry. It is hoped that the government will consider the apprehensions of business and trade circles that with the end of war, wartime industries will experience lots of difficulties.

Let us hope that the government will do everything possible for their conversion from war to peacetime expansion. But no permanent solution can be achieved unless a government representing the people and responsible to them is set up at the centre. In other words only a national government will be able to control and guide our currency, tariff, transport and other economic problems.

	Muslim	Non Muslim
<i>North West Area—</i>		
Punjab	16 217 242	12 291 677
North West Frontier		
Province	2 788 797	249 270
Sind	3 208 325	13 6 683
British Baluchistan	439 930	67 701
	<u>22 653 294</u>	<u>13 840 231</u>
	6,07,290	37,93,000
<i>North Eastern Area—</i>		
Bengal	33 005 434	77 301 091
Assam	3 119 479	6 702 554
	<u>36 44 913</u>	<u>34 003 345</u>
	36,44,913	48,31,000

The Muslim minorities in the remainder of British India number some 20 million dispersed amongst a total population of 188 million

These figures show that the setting up of a separate sovereign State of Pakistan on the lines claimed by the Muslim League would not solve the communal minority problem nor can we see any justification for including within a sovereign Pakistan those districts of the Punjab and of Bengal and Assam in which the population is predominantly non Muslim. Every argument that can be used in favour of Pakistan can equally in our view be used in favour of the exclusion of the non Muslim areas from Pakistan. This point would particularly affect the position of the Sikhs.

We therefore considered whether a smaller sovereign Pakistan confined to the Muslim majority areas alone might be a possible basis of compromise. Such a Pakistan is regarded by the Muslim League as quite impracticable because it would entail the exclusion from Pakistan of (a) the whole of the Ambala and Jullunder Divisions in the Punjab (b) the whole of Assam except the district of Sylhet, and (c) a large part of Western Bengal including Calcutta in which city the Muslims form 23.6 per cent of the population. We ourselves are also convinced that any solution which involves a radical partition of the Punjab and Bengal as this would do would be

contrary to the wishes and interests of a very large proportion of the inhabitants of these Provinces. Bengal and the Punjab each has its own common language and a long history and tradition. Moreover any division of the Punjab would of necessity divide the Sikhs leaving substantial bodies of Sikhs on both sides of the boundary. We have therefore been forced to the conclusion that neither a larger nor a smaller sovereign State of Pakistan would provide an acceptable solution for the communal problem.

Apart from the great force of the foregoing arguments there are weighty administrative, economic and military considerations. The whole of the transportation and postal and telegraph systems of India have been established on the basis of a united India. To disintegrate them would gravely injure both parts of India. The case for a united defence is even stronger. The Indian armed forces have been built up as a whole for the defence of India as a whole and to break them in two would inflict a deadly blow on the long traditions and high degree of efficiency of the Indian Army and would entail the gravest dangers. The Indian Navy and Indian Air Force would become much less effective. The two sections of the suggested Pakistan contain the two most vulnerable frontiers in India and for a successful defence in depth the area of Pakistan would be insufficient.

A further consideration of importance is the greater difficulty which the Indian States would find in associating themselves with a divided British India.

Finally there is the geographical fact that the two halves of the proposed Pakistan State are separated by some seven hundred miles and the communications between them both in war and peace would be dependent on the goodwill of Hindustan.

We are therefore unable to advise the British Government that the power which at present resides in British hands should be handed over to two entirely separate sovereign States.

ACOUSTICS OF BELLS

BY MR. R. K. VISWANATHAN, M.A.

THE vibrations of solid structures such as cymbals and bells have been utilized for a variety of purposes from time immemorial. Both are percussion instruments. In the case of bells there are air cavities to reinforce the plate vibrations while they are absent in cymbals. The history of bells is full of romantic interest. In all countries they have been used for both religious and secular purposes. The temple bell and the church bell have always remained indispensable for summoning the devotees to places of worship. It was a custom in olden days to use the bells to rally the soldiers at a moment's notice in cases of urgent need. Hence came the saying "He who commanded the bell commanded the town." In South India there is an interesting story current about the bell. It is said that King Manu Needi Chola, during his reign issued a proclamation that whoever had a grievance was at liberty to bring it to his notice by ringing the bell in his palace at any time. It seems one day a cow was found to ring the bell. The king on hearing the sound made an enquiry and learnt that its calf had just then been killed by the chariot of his own son. It is said he immediately issued an order to kill his son at the same place by driving the same chariot over him.

The use of bells for purposes of music is very limited. It is true that it emits a pleasing note. Besides satisfying the necessary requisites for producing and sustaining the vibrations, a musical instrument should possess the most important requisite of a manipulative mechanism for rapidly playing the notes according to a musical scale. The construction of this manipulative mechanism is rather difficult in the case of bells, because of their size and other factors relating to the production and regulation of their sounds. Still both carillons and chimes have been in use for a very long time. They refer to a set of bells tuned to a musical scale. The chimes are more widely known as

they are always found in big tower clocks. The clock mechanism controls the ringing of these bells. This is done by a system of wires connected to small hammers. There is a revolving barrel set with studs as touch pieces at the required points which actuate the levers attached to the hammers. The hammers then strike the bells at definite intervals. The carillon on the other hand is a very elaborate piece of machinery. There will be at least two complete octaves of bells in it. Carillons having four octaves are also in use. The carillons of Belgium and Holland containing more than forty-five bells are world famous. These are struck by clappers operated by electromagnets. In an orchestra the bell is also used for its sonorous timbre. Nowadays they use a set of metal tubes known as tubephone to imitate the bell timbre. This consists of a number of metal tubes supported on a frame and are struck by a hammer. Tubes of different lengths and thickness are taken for the different notes in the octave. Bars of metal and wood are also employed. These are known as xylophones.

We also employ the vibrations of solid structures in our music. The different varieties of metal cymbals known as Jalara another instrument known as Chittika and Jalatarang may be mentioned as examples. The Jalara consists of two circular plates each sunk at its centre. They are connected by a cord running through their centres. By striking one against the other in a peculiar way a ringing sound can be produced. There is another variety in common use which are cup-shaped. While playing this one of them will be held tightly in the left hand and the other held closely in the right hand will be made to strike it. Many modulations of tone are produced by expert players in this type of cymbal. Similar to this is the instrument known as Chittika which is used in Harikatha Kalakshepams. This consists of two pieces of hard wood which are flat on one side and rounded

on the other. They contain clusters of small bells at their ends which make a jingling sound when the flat surfaces are beaten together. For playing the thumb and the fingers in the right hand are passed through the rings fixed at the back of each piece and the flat surfaces are beaten together by alternately closing and opening the fingers. These instruments just described are only used to enhance the rhythmic effect. They cannot be called regular musical instruments. But Jalatarang is a regular musical instrument. This consists of a series of porcelain cups big and small. They are all filled with different quantities of water and are struck with sticks. The notes are played according to the musical scale.

There is an infinite variety of bells with numerous shapes. To realise this variety one has only to think of bells such as hand bells, electric bells, calling bells, cycle bells, cow bells and a host of other bells. The forms in many cases are approximately cylindrical or conical or hemispherical. For casting the bell in alloy known as bell metal is used. It contains copper and tin in the proportion of four to one, zinc and lead are also used in small bells. It will be noticed that the shape of the large bells used in temples and churches is rather peculiar. Its cross section and thickness will not be uniform throughout. Halfway down the bell is the "waist", and the lower end is known as the "lip" or "brim". Near the lower end where the shape curves outward is the striking place of the clapper. This is known as the "sound bow". At this place the inside and outside sections will have opposite curvatures. The thickness at the sound bow will range from one twelfth to one fifteenth of its diameter. The blow of the clapper sets the bell in vibration. The nodal lines formed then may be divided into two classes one running up and down the bell and the other around it. It is customary to speak of these classes as nodal meridians and nodal circles. Lord Rayleigh examined a

number of church bells and found out experimentally the various overtones. He found for the fundamental tone four sectors, for the octave four sectors and a ring, for the octave and minor third six sectors, for the twelfth sixth sectors, and a ring, for the double octave eight sectors and so on. The interval relations of the overtones given above by him are only approximate. It is the bell founder who by adjusting the thickness at various sections makes these tones as nearly harmonic as possible with one another. Besides these overtones which can be elicited by resonance another tone was noticed which immediately after striking overpowers all the other overtones. This is known as the "striking note". It has not been found possible to elicit this by resonance and hence it is considered as an aural illusion. The bell founder names the bell by the pitch of this striking note. It seems to be near that of the second overtone that is the octave. The fundamental pitch of the bell depends on the internal diameter, the greater this is, the lower will be the note. To tune the bell, the bell is placed in an inverted position below a machine with a rotating cutting tool and the metal is removed from the right place inside the bell. The note heard from a bell will often be accompanied by beats. If the bell is not perfectly symmetrical about its axis two normal modes are simultaneously set up which give rise to these beats. The same phenomenon is noticed in the case of cymbals also. It may be asked why the Fourier method cannot be applied to the sounds from bells for their analysis. This is not possible because the curves which can be obtained for the bell sounds will be non-periodic with no apparent wavelength. An analysis by the Fourier method will only lead to an infinite number of components, while the real sound is undoubtedly compounded from a finite number of partials which are only very nearly harmonic.

WOODCRAFT

By CAPT V. P. TAMPY

ART for use is older than Art for Art's sake. Utensils for living were made by Primitive man centuries ago, but he must soon have felt the necessity for 'styling' his material. In the adaptation of form to function, the nature of the material plays an important part. A material which is easily available and lightly workable would obviously afford more scope for the expression of the artistic aptitudes. Thus we find the artist craftsmen, through the ages leaving the marks of their genius on wood. India has been specially fortunate in this respect. Countless is the number of exquisitely carved beams and pillars that adorn many an old palace and temple.

Wood, however, has failed to keep pace with the rapid strides that characterise the present era of industrialisation. Wood, in spite of all its versatility, durability and easy availability is, comparatively speaking, less adapted for being used in industry where mass production methods are the rule. Unlike other materials—metals, stones or those ersatz hybrids the plastics—wood is part of a biological living system. As is the case with living materials—each piece of wood has an individuality which distinguishes it from any other piece. If we have to get the best results out of wood we have to understand and appreciate this individuality. The feel of the wood must be in the blood of the craftsman, and his work must be an intimate synthesis of maker and material. This transfusion of the personality of a worker with the materials of his craft can never be achieved in the case of factory born goods manufactured in countless millions by soulless machines.

This chasm of difference makes itself not only in the fundamental technique of production, but even in the very approach. In the case of mass produced articles, as for example, a tin can, the process of reproduction in large numbers is the work of cold steel, guided by alien and often

indifferent hands. The manufacturer has never to handle his material. The product bears but a feeble imprint of the personality of the man who designed it. On the other hand, in the case of a wooden vase or a teapoy the craftsman has to fashion the ware with his own hands. He has to take account of every grain and knot in the piece of wood he handles. A mechanical contrivance depending for its efficiency on certain immutable laws of nature is hopelessly inadequate to handle a highly individualised material like wood. In the case of a hydraulic press punching out thousands of sheets, it has very little to take account of the variations in the quality of the materials used. Every tin sheet is like any other, so is every can like any other. On the other hand, the mere mechanical duplication of the kind mentioned above is neither practicable nor desirable with wood. I remember seeing sometime back in an American paper a cartoon depicting a saw mill owner making efforts to push the sale of timber blocks. He was saying, "use wood—you can cut it, bend it and it won't break—just like plastic!" This is in a way a pointer. The gamut of materials at the command of the craftsman has increased by leaps and bounds. New materials are being developed in research laboratories everyday. Also improvements are being effected in the properties of metals and alloys to suit specific needs. Dame Nature on the other hand has been exceedingly unprogressive. She is producing wood of practically the same quality as was produced thousands of years ago. Wood, therefore, is fighting a losing battle. It would even have got excluded from factory stores had it not been for the fact that the best ingenuity of man has failed to produce a product similar to wood. As long as this is so, wood will retain its place as one of the handy materials for use.

This, however, should not mean that we can afford to be indifferent to wood

industries. They stand in urgent need of being stabilised. It might be mentioned in particular that the wooden toy industry which received a most fortuitous fillip for expansion during the war should be thoroughly overhauled and reorganised. Now, that conditions are becoming easier, the toy manufacturers should read the sign on the wall. Imports are likely and prices would tend to fall. In order to retain the market, it is essential that the manufacturer should move with the times. Instead of making the same toys year after year, he should try to strike a refreshing new note. Even a cursory review of the toys now manufactured will indicate the scope for modernising. Most of the toys such as rocking horses, toy cars, etc. can be streamlined and they can be rendered additionally attractive by using chrome trimming. It is one of our faults that we take too narrow a view of any industry. In the case of the wooden toy industry if we continue to be unprogressive we are likely to be ousted by competitors. We have to take note of the alternative materials available for use in the toy industry. I have already mentioned that in addition to paint, nickel, or chrome plated trimmings or gadgets would enhance the beauty of a toy very considerably. Again, we might use plastics moulded war. for certain intricate handles or things like that. Another suggestion which manufacturers might take note of, is the provision of electrical gadgets. Some toys like cars etc., could be made more endearing to children by being fitted with small electrical motors which could be worked by the use of torchlight batteries or by low voltage transformers. Similarly many toys could be fitted with various kinds of rocking systems worked by electricity. I would repeat that if the toy industry is to be on a firm footing the manufacturer has to brush off the cobwebs of old fashioned methods and get up. Among the various products manufactured from wood, toys are easily the ones which

approach any where near mass production. This means that while fifty clumsy looking tables scattered throughout a country would escape notice, fifty thousand toys, all equally ugly, in use in nurseries and displayed in shop windows would be an abomination. Increased acceptance of a product should induce the manufacturer to take greater care in its styling.

While in the case of toys, wood has to compete with a number of materials such as tinscrap, plastics, porcelain etc., in the field of furniture, wood holds an almost undisputed sway. Unlike toys, here the manufacturer's aim should be to make useful things more useful. He should aim at the harmonious blending of structure, colour and shape with the particular function the piece of furniture is to serve. Here, that manufacturer who combines ingenuity of design with attractiveness and utility scores over the manufacturer who is content with continuing to produce clumsy articles. As an American writer puts it "An Artist who puts presentable clothes on the engineer's baby steals the spotlight".

Another aspect which furniture manufacturers might consider is the adaptability for conversion. Congestion in cities has reduced the living space in rooms, and every housewife would be anxious to make one piece of furniture serve the purpose of two or more. American manufacturers appear to pay considerable attention to this aspect. We see advertisements of settees which could be converted into beds by night. This is a line which Indian manufacturers have neglected and I commend it to them.

An industry which has grown to enormous proportions in recent years is the manufacture of plywood. By using the veneer of the better class of woods and pasting them on sheets of softer wood, one could get good appearance at comparatively little cost. It is regrettable, however, that the Indian Plywood Industry has still to find its feet. Our resources, whether in the way of timber for the actual plywood sheets, or of scores of indigenous materials for glues etc., are inconsiderable. The

exploitation has been slow with the result that we are still depending on imports for our tea chests. A very well co-ordinated system of research for the industry including investigations on the suitability of the various species of woods for plywood, on the manufacture of water resistant glues and on the discovery of suitable insecticides or preservatives to prevent bore attack on the plywood is essential. It might be well worth investigating whether some of our forest products could not be made to yield suitable thermoplastic resins for bending plywood.

The need for progress and new outlook is as strong with the plywood industry as with the toy or furniture industry. It is reported that in United States plywood—the name itself may be a misnomer—is made with a metallic sheet for one of plies. This would secure the neatness and finish of a metallic sheet with the lightness and insulation of wood. Research on such

ingenious applications needs be conducted. It is a welcome sign that the plywood manufacturers are realising the need for concerted action on these lines. There have been press reports of recent conference of plywood interests.

Wood suffers from one disadvantage, it is too easily susceptible to attack by insect pests. Even simple treatments with common preservatives will do wonders but for long range protection, a scientific method of treating wood has to be resorted to. It is gratifying that the Forest Research Institute Dehra Dun, has been conducting investigations on this aspect with results of which we may well be proud. Certainly we have not yet been able to get an ideal method for preservation of wood. There is no gainsaying the fact that the methods of preservation evolved at the Institute have taken us definitely a step further in the right direction.

AN ASPECT OF MODERN BANKING

By MR S NARAYANASWAMY

HERE at last we have a specialised study of one important aspect of modern Banking. Decidedly an oasis in the wilderness of generalities in which most recent books on banking have preferred to wallow. Mr Sastri's book* on Advances against Goods has a very special interest to Bankers and Bank officials in this country—where the question of goods as security and the complicated mode and manner of securing their effective custody have afforded Bank officers the dubious pleasure of many sleepless nights. Mr Sastri has done wisely and well in dealing with the law on the subjects and in clarifying those legal expressions which are so

loosely bandied about in the world of Banking—pledge, assignment, lien, hypothecation and the host of them. His reference to the difficulties that subsist in this country in creating eligible paper for negotiation in the absence of recognised warehouse and *ad hoc* places of custody is pertinent. One cannot help recalling the demand for eligible paper which the Reserve Bank in the strenuous days of the 1933 Banking crisis offered to re-discount, when there was so little of that precious commodity in the Banking world in India, especially as defined by the Reserve Bank—this is however a digression.

The Chapter on "Produce under Pledge" is certainly instructive and apart from explaining the customary modes of storage adopted in this country deals with the popular types of produce that are generally

* 'BANKERS' ADVANCES AGAINST GOODS', by D. S. Sastri Esq., M.A., C.A.B. Foreword by Sr. C. Ramalinga Reddy. Introduction by Sr. Shanmukham Chetty. Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. Price Rs 12-8-0.

pledged with a Banker. The forms used for pledge of goods, the measures that the prudent Bank official has to take to give the Bank the fullest possible hold on the produce stored, the books to be maintained by the Bank in respect of such produce advances are set forth in fair detail. The Chapter on 'Manufactured Goods' lays appropriate stress on the special vigilance necessary in judging the borrower, his character and financial staying power—in view of the restricted character of the market for particular types of manufactured goods as distinguished from raw produce. The temptation to prefer manufactured goods to produce by reason of their being generally stored in secure places like wharfs and urban godowns is difficult to resist but says Mr Sastri manufactured goods are not without their disadvantages—such as scrutiny of securely packed goods and the difficulty in judging the marketability of the particular class of goods locally and the importance assumed by manufacturers' invoices. The Chapter on 'Documents of Title to goods' deals with all the types of documents negotiated pre-eminence being naturally given to the Railway Receipt which plays so important a role in the financing of goods in transit in India—where transit time is generally longer than in other countries owing to large distances covered and slowness of haulage. The Chapter on 'Safeguarding the Security' is certainly very educative and should be particularly commended to the new entrants to the Banking freemasonry to which there has recently been a fairly large accession. The vexatious questions of calling for additional margins, issuing notices of sale, auctioning of goods, action for recovering short falls are all dealt with in this Chapter. 'Insurance' is a fairly comprehensive chapter on the insuring of goods pledged in diverse ways depending on the type of goods pledged against loss by fire. The chapter on 'Commodities Generally' is revealing and deals with foodstuffs like rice, wheat, sugar, salt, ghee and tamarind,

with cotton, jute, coir oilseeds, plantation produce like tea, cardamom and the rest. There is also an equally informing chapter on the type of manufactured goods on which advances are made. The last chapter is a summing up of the outlook for commodity advances and the increase recently in this type of business. The specimen forms given at the end of the book constitute a valuable part of the publication and entitles the book to a place on the Banker's table as one of useful reference.

Latterly thanks to the rapid increase in the number of banking institutions, a large number of a half trained and untrained young men have been placed in positions of comparative responsibility—a prospect which I am definite we ourselves would have contemplated with an ugly pouting of the lips some few years ago. A nodding acquaintance with the current account 'ledger' a capacity to put pencil crosses on the D P N form, an indifferent all too brief course of sitting behind some brightly polished counter and general affability of bearing have come to be regarded as adequate training entitling young men to positions involving exercise of discretion which it was generally thought safe to entrust to only men of mature age. Perhaps this has become inevitable at a time when the speed with which Banks are born has far outstripped the speed with which young men eligible to take up responsible positions can be trained. There is no incubator which can accelerate the hatching of the Banker egg. The seminary of banking involved a hard course and will take its full toll of time before it can issue a certificate of fitness. In the first resort it would therefore be better to train our youth before we entrust public money to their keeping for investment. In the second and last resort if we cannot train them it would be far better that they are made to read and assimilate books written by men of experience in the Banking world. Such a one is Mr Sastri's excellent book.

THE RAILWAYMEN'S DEMANDS

ON June 1 one million railwaymen in India took their first decisive step to enforce their 16 point demand when they served notice on all the eight major railway systems in this country of their intention to go on strike on the midnight of June 27. If by that time some eleventh hour move does not come to fruition, 40,000 miles of railway will go to sleep at a time when India is facing what may be deemed as the biggest famine in her history.

In the present grave conditions in the country no greater calamity can be conceived than a general strike by railway men. The supreme interests of the country demand that it must be averted at any cost.

Sir Edward Benthall, Railway Member has issued a statement declaring that the proposed strike would be illegal when part of the demands had been referred for arbitration. Sir Edward accuses the Railwaymen's Federation of 'holding a pistol at the head of the Government and the people. We cannot allow the finances of the country to be wrecked just on the plea of satisfying Labour'. Sir Edward added that it would be impossible to meet the Federation's demand for increases totalling Rs 33½ crores plus Rs 10 crores of immediate non recurring relief.

The strike idea has been gathering momentum since April last and this will be the first time that a strike of this magnitude and on all India scale has been undertaken.

It is not for laymen to judge aright to a nicety the adequateness or otherwise of the Railway finances to meet the demands of the Railwaymen. But the case for the railwaymen has been put by the members of the Council of Action with sufficient clarity and force to merit careful consideration. They contend that the Railway Board's "hidden resources" are enormous, and that the higher wages demanded could very well be met without increasing fares or stinting amenities. It is common knowledge that the railways reaped a bumper harvest during war time and allotments by way of

depreciation and interest (charges) amounting to 200 crores have been given away to the defence department by the Railway Board during the past five years at the rate of 40 crores a year. It is pointed out that during war years railways have given Rs 48 crores, more than that prescribed by convention, to the general revenue. There is that depreciation fund of one hundred crores against the recommended figure of Rs 50 crores.

The Transport Member promised to place the matter before the Standing Finance Committee for Railways. But the Standing Committee has since pronounced that retrenchment cannot be a subject for adjudication. The Railway Board has now offered to refer all the points excepting the question of retrenchment in dispute to adjudication.

Meanwhile the Viceroy is reported to have contacted the leaders of the Congress and the Muslim League. In view of the food crisis in the country and the vital need to maintain free and quick movement of supplies to the deficit areas, it is essential that the Government and leaders should leave nothing undone to avert the threatened railway strike. It is obvious, as a contemporary rightly points out

that the present serious situation would not have developed if there had been at the Centre a National Government in which the railwaymen could have confidence. The delay in its establishment is not only preventing the adoption of vigorous measures to meet the food crisis, but is giving rise to fresh complications.

It is significant that more than one leader while appreciating the case for the Unions still urge postponement of direct action in view of the present posture of affairs in the country.

'Railwaymen should realise' says Mr V V Giri, Minister for Industries and Labour, Madras, that the Interim Government is likely to come into existence in a short time and they must be given an opportunity to review the whole situation and take decisions that may lead to a final settlement of the whole dispute. The Interim Government should not be made to feel that they are put in an embarrassing position. Moreover the railwaymen should be alive to the serious food position in the country and help the same to tide over the crisis. I advise Railway Unions to consider this matter, and the General Council of the Federation to meet and give proper advice to its constituents."

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By 'AN INDIAN JOURNALIST'

Congress Rejects Parity Claim

EVIDENTLY, Congress enthusiasm for the Cabinet plan has steadily dissipated with the unconscionable delay in implementing the original intentions of the Mission as set forth in their statement of May 16. Gandhiji and others have begun to feel uncomfortable owing to the wide divergence between the original statement and the subsequent interpretation.

In spite of the persistent efforts of the parties concerned, the deadlock in the negotiations for the setting up and the composition of the Provisional National Government still remains unresolved.

According to the Political correspondent of the Associated Press of India, the net result of all these political parleys appears to be that the three parties, the Congress, the Muslim League and the Viceroy, have not been able to agree on the final terms of the composition of the new Government.

The Congress Working Committee, which discussed the position for many hours together, has finally and unequivocally rejected the Viceroy's proposal for an Interim Provisional Government based on the principle of parity of representation between the Congress and the Muslim League and a communication to this effect was despatched to the Viceroy by the Congress President.

The Congress President's letter, it is believed, points out that the Congress cannot and will not agree to the principle of parity of representation. While rejecting the claim for parity in the Provisional Government, the letter also stated that the right of a province to decide for itself whether to join a group or remain outside it cannot be taken away. How can the Frontier or the Assam Provinces, be forced to join

the League group against the declared intentions of their electorate?

The letters, it is learnt, also mention that the Provisional Government formed on the basis suggested by the Viceroy, namely parity of representation between the Congress and the Muslim League, can never be an appropriate instrument to summon the Constituent Assembly. Such a Government, in the opinion of the Committee, will always be faced with frequent conflicts on communal grounds that it can never rise above such considerations and view national aspirations and desires as they should be viewed. Like the Government of France under the Third Republic we will be faced with a change of Government every alternate month. And it will afford the world a handy weapon to prove our incapacity for a stable, democratic administration!

Thus in the opinion of the Congress, there is no half way house between the present system and substantial responsibility. It does not concern a few points here and some concessions there. It means fundamental changes in the conception of Government. The Congress stands by the implications of the original demands for the immediate transfer of power.

According to Congress sources it appears that during their recent meetings with the Viceroy and the Members of the Cabinet Mission, Congress leaders have told them that they should make up their mind to hand over power either to the Congress or to the Muslim League. The Congress had no objection as to which Party was called upon to form the Government but the question of the composition of the new Provisional Government must essentially be a matter for discussion between parties coalescing and not between representatives of the British Government and Indian Party leaders. The present difficulties had arisen because the Viceroy and the Cabinet Mission were trying to decide themselves the composition of the new Government.

India and South Africa

So the Asiatic Land Act, rushed through both Houses of the Union Legislature with indecent haste has been signed by the Governor-General and is now Law. But Indians in South Africa, no less than in India, refuse to accept the position as inevitable. The Government of India are one with the people in denouncing this one-sided arrangement. As a mark of protest they have severed diplomatic relations with the Union Government by recalling the Indian High Commissioner in South Africa. The notice of termination of the Trade Agreement between India and South Africa will expire on June 25 and, thereafter, there will not be any direct trade between the two countries.

Yet Field Marshal Smuts, under whose auspices this anti-Indian feeling is being perpetuated, continues to indulge in eloquent platitudes on world fellowship and the brotherhood of man at international gatherings in Europe!

It is true that Indian retaliation, situated as we are, can hardly be very effective and perhaps our countrymen over there will lack even the little facilities that the Indian High Commissioner could have procured for them. But with South African Indians it is a question of high morals and they are not prepared to compromise on a matter of principle.

We welcome the decision of the Government of India to bring the issue before the U.N.O. We cannot anticipate what the U.N.O. will do. But the cause Gandhi says is the cause of the honour of India and through her of all the exploited coloured races of the earth whether they be brown, yellow or black. It is worth all the suffering of which they are capable.

And so the Natal Indian Congress has served notice on the South African Government of its decision to carry on a

campaign of passive resistance against the anti-Indian legislation. That such a conflict should have been forced on the Indians forty years after a similar struggle had been launched under the leadership of Gandhiji shows how little the status of Indians has improved in the intervening years.

For, as Pandit Jawaharlal has observed in a farewell message to the South African delegation,

the time has come when the theory and practice of racial arrogance and discrimination must be challenged. It is true at the present moment we are not strong enough as a nation or as a people to put an end to racial discrimination and national indignity. But the time is coming soon when we may be strong enough. Whether we are strong enough or not, however, one thing should be certain—that we prefer any consequences to submission to this evil. The issue of Indians in South Africa has become a world issue. It is up to the Indians there to realise this fact and act worthily on the world stage which they occupy in this matter.

Racialism in the RIN

Evidence given before the RIN Enquiry Commission at Karachi tends to confirm the general impression that the whole unfortunate happening was the outcome of mismanagement on the part of the naval authorities. There is a persistent feeling that the army fired the first angry shot which precipitated the mutiny and culminated in the ratings using 4 inch guns. Lt Rao, second in command of Chamak, drew a striking comparison between the mutiny in Karachi and that of the Royal Navy in 1797, to reiterate the argument that the mutiny would have been avoided if the situation had been tackled with understanding. He asserted that the presence of British troops produced more consternation in men than anything else. And then though the facilities for men in the Royal Navy and the RIN were more or less the same, men generally smarted under racial discrimination in the latter. Why should there be any differentiation in the treatment of men doing the same job? This at bottom is the crux of the whole trouble not only in the Navy but in other spheres of public service as well.

The Ambedkar Churchill front

We never knew that Mr Churchill, the Tory imperialist, has all along reserved his affections for the scheduled classes of India. Churchill has never been known to be friendly to India, if anything his whole life and career have been a standing menace to the freedom of this country. Whenever there is any prospect of this freedom looming on the horizon, the enemies of India become alert and start their vicious campaign. The Cabinet mission has naturally aroused the ire of these enemies. And strangely enough all the disgruntled elements are in league to thwart any attempt at settlement. And Churchill has found in Dr Ambedkar the self appointed leader of the depressed classes, a fit instrument to further his end. So the two have put their heads together to torpedo if they can the efforts of the Cabinet Mission to carry through their proposals. One knows a person by the company he keeps. And Dr Ambedkar, who owes his elevation to the mercy or machination of interested quarters, suddenly feels impelled to appeal to Churchill against what he calls the "Shameful betrayal of the untouchables." This sort of Mir Jafferism is not new to a subject country like India. Fortunately the Untouchables are not to be fooled so easily. They see the wickedness of the mischief brewing behind the scenes.

Mr Churchill and his Conservative Party are the enemy No. 1 of India's freedom and the Scheduled Castes do not need any pledge from them, says Mr Prithvi Singh Azad, M.L.A. (Punjab) and General Secretary of the All-India Depressed Classes League, in the course of a statement to the Press.

Mr Azad adds

It was Mr Churchill and his colleagues who created leaders like Dr Ambedkar to safeguard the interests of British Imperialism in India. But the Depressed Classes have realised that Dr Ambedkar is playing into the hands of the enemies of India and this is the cause of his party's defeat in the recent elections. No longer can he claim to be the sole representative of India's Depressed Classes and as such he cannot speak on their behalf.

Mr. Attlee on the Position of the states

It is clear from the fuller version of Mr Attlee's speech in the House of Commons on March 15 that is available now that the Premier stated that Britain could not allow not only a minority but the Indian States to veto political advance in India. He also expressed the hope that the "statesmen of British India and Princely India would be able to work out a solution of the problem of bringing together in one great policy these disparate constituent parts."

The passage in the Premier's speech relating to Indian States gains greater significance as reported in the London *Times*. According to the *Times*, Mr Attlee said "In many Indian States, great advances have been made in democratic institutions. There was the most interesting experiment going on in Travancore under that distinguished statesman, Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, and the feeling in British India regarding nationalism, that the unity of India cannot be confined to the boundaries that separated these States from the Provinces. I hope the statesmen of British India and Princely India will be able to work out a solution of the problem of bringing together in one great policy these disparate constituent parts. There again they must see that the Indian States must find their due place and there could be no possible veto of the advance, and I do not think that the Indian Princes would desire to be a bar to the forward advance of India, but, as in the case of any of the other communities, this is a matter which Indians will settle for themselves."

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr G A Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G T, Madras.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Mr. Bevin on British Foreign Policy

"NO one will be happier than I, if, before I leave this office, I can carry the world organisation a stage further, in which it will draw its powers direct from the people and not merely be delegated from Governments," declared Mr. E. Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, replying to critics of the Government's foreign policy, in the debate at the Labour Party Conference on June 12.

In his eagerly awaited speech, Mr. Bevin referred to the Paris Conferences, saying he was not convinced yet, and was not prepared to accept the pessimistic view, that what had been said over the radio and in the Press during the last few days was the final word. There was no final word until they came to real issues.

Mr. Bevin repudiated the following resolution, which was finally withdrawn:

This Conference, recognising that the only hope of a lasting peace lies in the international adoption of socialism, and regretting the Government's apparent continuance of the traditionally Conservative Party policy of power politics abroad, urges a return to the Labour Party foreign policy of support of Socialist and anti Imperialist forces throughout the world.

Italians Vote for Republic

On June 5, King Umberto II left Italy for exile after 29 days as King. Thus ends the 83 year reign of the House of Savoy over united Italy.

Umberto, who is aged 41, leaves the country as the final result of the referendum, in which the Italians voted for a Republic.

The figures for the referendum issued by the Ministry of the Interior according to the Rome Radio, were:

Republic	12,152,551
Monarchy	10,362,701

The latest results of the elections for the Constituent Assembly show the Christian Democrats with over 35 per cent of the votes, followed by the Socialists with 20 per cent.

France's Claim in Siam

By fair means and foul the French are trying to re-establish their rule in Indo-China, says the left wing weekly, *New Statesman and Nation*.

"The French intervention on the Siamese border", adds the *New Statesman*, "against which the Siamese Government has now issued a protest is no less than an attempt to regain by force of arms those provinces of Cambodia and Laos which the Vichy Government ceded to Siam in 1941 after a short war in which the Japanese acted as mediators. For the Siamese people these areas are their 'Alsace Lorraine' peopled by the same race. Nothing seems to have changed, and, if the United Nations is to acquire any meaning to Asiatics, it will respond to Siam's appeal and call on France to turn over a new leaf and recognise the new forces now spreading over the whole of Asia."

Truce in China

The Committee of Three of Gen. G. Marshall, US Special Envoy to China, signed a 15 day truce between the Chinese Government and the Communists in Manchuria on June 6.

The truce is preliminary to negotiations for permanent peace between the Chinese Government and the Chinese Communists.

The Committee of three consists of Gen. Marshall, Gen. Chou En Lai (Communist) and Gen. Chu Yung chang (Chinese Government).

British Policy in Indonesia

Ten Democratic members of the United States Congress have written to Mr. Edward Stettinius, United States representative at UNO, urging "that the question of Indonesia be placed on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council for immediate consideration". The letter said that "armed Japanese troops are under orders of British commanders on the scene to preserve 'law and order' in"



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

MY MASTER GOKHALE A Selection from the Speeches and writings of the Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri Foreword by Mahatma Gandhi Edited by T N Jagadisan Model Publications Madras

In the absence of a full length definitive biography of Gokhale we must be content with this collection of occasional writings and speeches of the master by one who is at once his disciple and successor. On the eve of the Benares Congress in 1905 Sastri wrote an illuminating sketch of Gokhale in the *Indian Review* a sketch which attracted Gokhale's attention by the warmth of its appreciation no less than by its critical discernment. Since then for four decades Mr Sastri has had occasion to write and speak of his master with more intimate knowledge and authority and Mr Jagadisan's collection throws light on different phases of Gokhale's activities.

Gokhale died in 1915 and much water has flowed under the bridge since he made what is known as his last political testament pleading for a great extension of local self government! And yet the whole tone and spirit of Gokhale's speeches from which Mr Sastri quotes prodigally have lost none of their inspiring appeal to our higher emotions.

Much as we value Mr Sastri's dissertations on Gokhale's public life and character and his estimate of his political and diplomatic achievements there is special charm in Mr Sastri's delineation of the less known aspects of Gokhale's private life and habits. Apart from this we have brief but vivid glimpses of men like Ranade and Mehta and Krishnaswami Aiyar, and incidentally also a good deal of autobiographical material presented with all the charm and fascination of a gifted literatureur.

INDIAN CONTRIBUTION TO ENGLISH LITERATURE By Prof K R Srinivasa Iyengar Karnatak Publishing House Bombay

Ever since the days of Macaulay in India Indians have tried to seek self expression through the medium of English and they have attained a remarkable degree of success in the production of poems novels treatises autobiographies and memoirs. To achieve conspicuous proficiency in a language quite foreign to our thoughts culture and environments is no easy thing and as Prof C E Speight says these works stand as symbols of our power of adaptation and astonishing achievement. Though many of us are acquainted with the works of only the better known of the Indian writers Indo Anglians as the author calls them we have no medium of contact with the works of a host of other writers who have made no small contribution in the domain of English literature. Prof K R Srinivasa Iyengar bridges the gap and gives us a comprehensive survey of the various Indian contributions to the English Literature.

In tracing the birth and growth of Indo Anglian Literature from the days of Raja Ram Mohan Roy to the present day the author has dealt with all the notable achievements in the sphere adding his own personal remarks and criticisms. The term Literature has been given a wider connotation in the volume under review in that not only Indian poets dramatists and novelists are included but also critics, orators, journalists, philosophers and historians who have all made a mark in their expression in English.

In his attempt to make the book comprehensive the author has inevitably to include writings which at their best belong to what Sir Bomanji calls well cultivated mediocrity. Even so it has its advantages as a book of reference and a mine of information.

CHANGING IDEALS IN SOVIET RUSSIA By K T Shah Pratubha Publications Bombay No 5 Price Rs 1 12

In this able and thought provoking pamphlet Mr K T Shah describes the many changes that have taken place in Soviet Russia and says that as Russian Society is the most living, vital and dynamic society in the world it is natural that continuous change should be the order in Russia. The Russians firmly believe that in human affairs or institutions, there is nothing eternal, immutable or absolute and changes in that society are effective pointers of the vitality and living force of faith for continuous improvement in the social, political and economic spheres. The author has also endeavoured to analyse the ruling motives behind the post war British and American trade policies and the position of India in their mutual scramble for oil raw materials and disposal of surplus stock of war materials.

UNITY AND AUTONOMY IN AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY By Sir Iven Mackay The Russell Lecture 1945 Indraprastha Press, Patna

To the student of politics nothing is more interesting in the political progress of Australia than its rapid transformation from a convict settlement 150 years ago into a leading Pacific power of today. In this illuminating lecture by the High Commissioner for Australia in India we note the landmarks in the constitutional development of the country, the many forces and factors responsible for it. The author describes the many obstacles which the country had to overcome in the struggle for Dominion Status, the hostility of the mother country, the attitude of the landowners towards the miners and the free settlers towards the emancipists and other social problems with deep insight and understanding. A study of the political development, the unity and autonomy of the Australian constitution will be immensely useful to a country like India which is struggling to be free from the British Empire.

THE NATIONAL FLAG AND OTHER ESSAYS By Dr Sunil Kumar Chatterji (Mitra and Ghosh) 10, Shyama Charma De Street, Calcutta, Rs 5

Dr Sunil Kumar Chatterji, the well known scholar and linguist has gathered together in this slender volume nine essays dealing with ancient Indian culture, its wide ramifications, its contact with China, and the rich heritage it has left for posterity. He has many interesting observations about city museums, sculptures in Calcutta, the foundations of civilizations in India, the National Flag, Tansen as a poet and the Kols. Based on historic research and deep study the essays reveal remarkably the scholarship and learning of the author and will be immensely useful to students of Indian history and culture.

AHIMSAYOGA By Prof Indra The Minerva Bookshop Anarkali, Lahore

Professor Indra has attempted in this book which he calls 'Mohan Gita' to record in easy Sanskrit verses on the lines of the Bhagavat Gita, the teachings of Mahatma—Poet Rabindranath, Dinabandhu Andrews, Rajendra Babu and Mahatma are the Counter parts of Driharashtra, Sanjaya, Arjuna and Sri Krishna. The book is divided into 18 chapters according to the nature of the subjects dealt with and Gandhiji's views on them are conveyed in simple Sanskrit verses. This is a valuable, interesting and significant addition to the Gandhian literature.

BOOKS RECEIVED

PRINCES OR PUPPETS A Study of the constitutional and political aspects of the Indian States by 'Forrest', Thacker & Co Ltd, Bombay

AMERICA THE LAND OF SUPERLATIVES By Kamala Devi Chattopadhyaya Phoenix Publication Sri Samarath Sadan Orissa Bombay

BATTLE FOR HEALTH By S R F E James (Tata Studies in Current Affairs) Indica Publications Ltd, Bombay

FOUNDACTION FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION By Benoy Kumar Sarkar M A Chatterjee & Co, Ltd, Calcutta. Rs 15

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- May 1 Mr Attlee on the implications of the Report on Palestine
—Report on Alighat riots issued
- May 2 INA trials dropped
—Arabmona to declare holy war in Palestine
- May 3 New Ministry for Japan
- May 4 South Africa retaliates by withdrawing preference to Indian Government
—Mr Ginn resigns Presidentship of Railway men's Federation
- May 5 Tripartite Conference opens at Simla
—Bhulabhai Desai passes away
- May 6 Sir Archibald Nye New Governor of Madras assumes office
- May 7 British troops to withdraw from Egypt
—India's wheat quota rejected as unfair and utterly inadequate
- May 8 Parliament approves British policy in Egypt
- May 9 Pandit Nehru elected President of the Congress
—Viceroy's Council Members tender resignation
- May 10 King Emanuel of Italy abdicates Prince Umberto to be new King
- May 11 Pandit Nehru meets Mr Jinnah
—Viceroy confers with Gandhiji
- May 12 Failure of Simla talks officially announced
- May 13 Hoover's report on Food crisis gives India's requirements
- May 14 Indian XI beat Surrey
—Mr F W Gentile appointed Chief Justice of Madras in succession to Sir Lionel Leach
- May 15 Congress terms for co operation in Interim Government at Centre published
- May 16 Cabinet Mission announces its plan for interim Government at Centre
—Lord Pethick Lawrence's broadcast on the Government's plan for India
- May 17 Viceroy's broadcast on Government proposals
—Gandhiji commends the proposals
- May 18 1500 Railwaymen in South India strike work
—Congress Working Committee, discusses cabinet mission's plan
- May 19 Correspondence re Simla Conference released
- May 20 Persian troops attack Azerbaijan
—Arrest of Kashmir leaders
- May 21 S I R workers resume work
—Civil war in Manchuria
- May 22 Mr Jinnah issues statement criticising Cabinet plan
—Cabinet Mission clarifies Paramountcy issue
- May 23 Congress Working Committee accepts Indonesian offer of rice
—Viceroy's talk with Congress leaders re Interim Government
- May 24 Congress Working Committee concludes after adopting a resolution on the Mission's Plan for India
—Both Houses of Madras Legislature meet after lapse of 7 years
- May 25 Pandit Nehru indicts Kashmir administration
—Tehri ruler abdicates
- May 26 French forces enter Siam,
—Sir A P Patro is dead
- May 27 Madras Assembly passes bill to increase salaries of ministers and legislators
- May 28 Cufrew order in Delhi & Allahabad
- May 29 Pandit Nehru on Kashmir incidents
—Arab rulers in Conference near Cairo
- May 30 Railwaymen's Action Committee reject Board's proposals
- May 31 Sir C Auchinleck made Field Marshal
—Sir Girda Shankar Bajpai, Agent General for India in Washington arrives in Karachi



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



CHANGES IN CONGRESS CONSTITUTION

Far reaching changes in the Congress constitution have been proposed by the Congress Constitution Sub Committee which had been appointed at the Poona Session of the Working Committee last year. The Working Committee in its Delhi session has discussed this report which has not yet been published by the Congress High Command. Commenting on this the *Modern Review* complains that a veil of secrecy has come to form a regular feature in respect of actions of a far reaching nature taken or proposed to be taken by the supreme leaders of the Congress. The people are kept in the dark during the period of negotiation. Later, they are asked to accept a *fait accompli* and support the action of the leaders in the name of maintaining the prestige of the Congress. We are prepared to admit the occasional necessity of withholding the details of the negotiations from the public for a time, but the hush policy in regard to the broad principles of the policy proposed to be pursued ought to be given out when the subject is under discussion. The people ought to be given an opportunity to express themselves *during* the stage of negotiations and not *after* it has been accepted by the leaders either expressly or tacitly. The people have unbounded confidence in the leaders, the press in general have extended unqualified support to them, no misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the Congress viewpoint has been indulged in either on the platform or in the press except by a

microscopic few. It is in the interest of the country and the Congress that the people should have authentic reports of the broad principles of negotiations or discussions with representatives of Great Britain or high British officials in India. The people's right to have a knowledge in broad outlines of any measure which is going to affect them must be admitted. It is regrettable that the Working Committee like their other measures have kept the public in the dark about the drastic changes in the Congress constitution.

THE SOLDIER AND THE SOIL

It is obvious that only a small percentage of the demobilised soldiers can be absorbed in existing or newly evolving industries in India and that, therefore, a very large number, particularly from the Punjab will have to depend mostly on the land for their livelihood. How can their sense of discipline best be harnessed to the service of the soil? In a recent issue of *Indian Farming* R. MacLagan Gornie suggests some ways. With the aid of earth moving machinery such as the soldiers are familiar with, they could co-operate in reclaiming eroded and ravined lands, in utilising waste lands for the production of timber, firewood, fodder and thatching grass, resin and gum in the scientific management of forest areas, in reclaiming water logged areas, in constructing dams, in providing wind-breaks and shelter belts to control the movement of wind blown sand, and in increasing the output of scarcity areas by contour bunding, as demonstrated in Bijapur District in Bombay Presidency. Thus soil erosion and failure to conserve water, which the author rightly calls 'the twin causes of agricultural poverty,' could be overcome and two blades of grass made to grow where one grows now. Surely a more patriotic work than wielding the weapons of war!

NATIONAL LANGUAGE OF INDIA

"Gandhiji has given many things to India, but probably very few people realise that one of the biggest things that she has received at his hands is the idea of national language", says Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President, in an article in *Haryana* under the caption, "National Language of India"

Maulana Azad adds "Although she (India) could boast of several languages there was none which was universally accepted as her national language

"English came to us through the Government but soon it so dominated the country that it became the medium for higher education and social intercourse among the educated class. They were ashamed to speak in their national language and considered it a mark of honour and distinction to speak in English only on all occasions. Even in their private conversations, they could not put away their English. A new political awakening came over the country towards the close of the 19th century when the Indian National Congress was founded. The sessions of the Congress were held to make the demands and decisions of the nation heard by the world. But even this voice was not in the national tongue. We wanted to proclaim to England that India was for Indians and for none other. But to say that, we could find no language of our own and were content to express our longing in a borrowed tongue

"The entry of Gandhi in the political field spelt a complete revolution—the country began to speak in its own tongue. To speak in the national tongue ceased to be regarded as a shame. Gandhiji reminded the people that the thing to be ashamed of was to forget one's own tongue. He toured all over the country in 1920-21 and delivered hundreds of speeches but without exception they were in Hindustani

"When I was under detention at Ranchi during the Great War, I remember having read in the newspapers the report of the War Conference which Lord Chelmsford had summoned in 1917. Gandhiji participated in it but he had made it a condition that he would speak in Hindustani. At that time this was regarded by the Press as a strange innovation. But the innovation was soon to become the common thing in the country and to-day we see that Hindustani has taken the place that English held twenty five years ago"

SOME ASPECTS OF SANKARA'S PHILOSOPHY

Prof Akshaya Kumar Banerjee, M.A., writing in the *Prabuddha Bharata* for May draws attention to some aspects of Sankara's philosophy which are not sufficiently realised by the lay public. It is a mistake to think that Sankara was content with mere speculation and meditation and looked down upon our activities as either idle or futile. Only he held that

the active life of a man should not be a life of unhealthy competition, rivalry, hostility, fear, hatred and envy, but a life of mutual love and

service, a life dedicated to the worship of the Supreme Spirit in the form of the family, society, the nation, humanity, and the animal world. Those who have the Vaisya spirit in them should increase the wealth of the country. Those who have the Kshatriya spirit in them should, when necessary, fight for the good of the society. Those who are skilled or unskilled labourers should render services to society ungrudgingly in accordance with their capacities. The intellectualists should make cultural contributions to the human race. In this way, all individuals, all communities, all castes, all classes should in their practical life, regard themselves as self-conscious and self-determining limbs of the social or national organism and dedicate themselves freely, voluntarily, intelligently, and efficiently to the worship of the whole organism. This should help them practically in realizing their unity with others, the identity of their own self with the self of all others.

In fact in none of his teachings does Sankara encourage an inactive life—a life indifferent to duties and responsibilities of our self-conscious and self-determining phenomenal existence.

A life of inaction and Tamasic indifference is not necessary for, but is a formidable obstacle to the realization of the True Self. Self-realization is not the negation of action but the perfection of self-consciousness and freedom, the consciousness of all as one's own self and free loving service to all. Karma or the voluntary and earnest performance of duties according to one's capacity and station in life is taught by Shankara as the necessary preparation for self-realization for the realization of Brahman in the self and all.

Thus the accusation against Shankara's philosophy that it stands in the way of the military strength, the material prosperity, the political organization, and the earthly happiness of the Indian nation and is the cause of the indifferent and otherworldly attitude of the Indian people is groundless.

THE WORLD ORDER AND WORLD RELIGION

Writing in the *Vedanta Kesari* for May Mr P Chenchiah M L, holds that the coming together of different major religions, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam in India has a divine purpose behind it.

The religion of Man in the broadest sense is the synthesis of three historic religions that have come together in India. But the synthesis is not artificial or eclectic. Just as the citizen of the world emerges out of the welter of Nationalities, as a new creation so does the religion of the world for the citizen of the world emerge out of the welter of religions as a mutative factor in history. We look forward for a new world religion which is neither a reconstitution of historic religions in the light of one another nor a mosaic of them all but a new faith broad as humanity in which historic faiths find full expression or realise their destiny.

Mr Chenchiah concludes that the task of religious men in the post war world is to follow and develop the central message of Gandhiji, that love has really a greater power to do good than force and so seek to build the Kingdom of God on love in every realm of life.

In bringing to bear love on social construction let us remember what the Upanishads tell that love seeks oneness and what Buddhism proclaims that compassion for the suffering is the motive for love. Then with the Jew let us learn that love is double-faced like Janus but the two faces are inseparable. You cannot love God without loving Man. Islam comes in and teaches that love can and will build a human brotherhood on the eternal foundations of Fatherhood of God. Christianity gives us a new technique of love. True love seeks the lost and the suffering and transmutes darkness into light and the sinner into the saint. Love is the power that alone can effect the transformation. What India needs today is a practical demonstration of what love can achieve in the economic and social areas of society. Why not men of different religions in Madras meet at once and work out a five-year plan of co-operation of religions for social reconstruction? This is my passion and prayer.

ART AND LITERATURE IN BUILDING SOCIETY

Art and literature, says Samaren Ray in the *Dawn of India*, are very valuable and effective channels by which we can reach to the masses as well as the intelligentsia the problems and the solutions of our social and cultural life

If, instead of performing that task set to it by history, art becomes the pet child of some technicians interested only in the mode of expression, forms and shades etc or the pet child of the vested interests who want to keep the people under eternal ignorance art ceases to be what it should be—expression of life. The heritage and permanence of art lies in its conformity with social evolution. Its purpose and meaning is lost and it becomes obsolete, when it loses its dynamics and evolutionary vitality.

Literature like art, has also got a direct connection with philosophy

The most fundamental and starting point of philosophy is that it is a practical necessity and is cultivated in order to understand and determine how life can be best led. In every country, including India, the reason why this practical motive has been uppermost is due to a spiritual disquiet at the sight of the evils that cast a gloom over life, and man wanted to understand the sources of these evils in order to find out some means to completely overcome life's miseries. Art and literature give expression to this urge of humanity and serve the social purpose of philosophy. They reevaluate the old values of our social and cultural life and create a moral and philosophical basis for the new age and the new philosophy that is needed today.

The role of art and literature as methods of propaganda of a philosophy is to transform the world.

And only in this process of transformation by acting upon the society continuously does the store of human knowledge endlessly increase. And art and literature of a particular epoch are valuable, in so far as they enable man to transform the world thereby opening a new epoch of progress.

BEFORE PEARL HARBOUR

Dr E. Stanley Jones, the well known Christian evangelist who is at present lecturing in Madras, writing in the December 1945 issue of "Asia and the Americas" states that war could have been avoided between the United States and Japan in December 1941, if the United States had lent aid and encouragement to the peace party in Japan in its efforts to prevent war. The course of United States' policy however played squarely into the hands of the war party and made the Pacific war inevitable says Dr Jones.

As I look back it seems to me that the causes that led to this war with Japan can be listed as follows: 1 The war party of Japan bent on establishing a "New Order in Asia" by force of arms and conquest. 2 The example of Western Imperialism. This Imperialism grabbed the Pacific Island world when grabbing was good before Japan woke up and held it, refusing to give Japan a place in it by conquest. 3 Japan had no real quarrel with us, except over our immigration law, but there was the belief in Japan that the United States would defend the white empires in the East. We stood in the way. She struck at us to get at those empires. The war in the Pacific was over empire. 4 The refusal of the request of Japan for a statement in the Versailles Treaty declaring the equality of races. 5 The discrimination against Japan in the United States immigration laws. 6 The fact that we were going into the European war step by step made it almost inevitable that we should get into a Pacific war. 7 The pressure of a war party that surrounded the President. 8 The pressure of nations who wanted us to get into a war. (a) Great Britain was obviously trying to get us into the European war, as Mr Churchill later openly said and was not averse to getting us in by the back door of a Pacific War. (b) China, who wanted us to get into the war in order to help her. (c) The Netherlands who wanted us to protect her threatened Pacific empire. 9 The giving of an ultimatum to Japan, without opening a door that would have made compliance possible.

Dr Stanley Jones, however, lays the heaviest blame on the war party in Japan. But, he adds,

we helped that war party come to power. We could have prevented them before they seized power and we did not. The responsibility for the Pacific war then, must rest not on one pair of shoulders but on many in varying degrees.

Travancore

SIR C P ON STATES' ROLE

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, interviewed by a press representative in connection with the Cabinet Delegation's memorandum on States' treaties and Paramountcy said

The memorandum issued by the Cabinet Delegation which has just been published, was made known to the representatives of the Indian States some time ago and it accepts the contention practically unanimously put forward on behalf of Indian States that there can be no question of Paramountcy and that the term itself will be a misnomer after the attainment of independence or full self government by India as a whole, including the Indian States

FOOD SITUATION IN TRAVANCORE

Referring to the food situation in Travancore Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan in a broadcast from Delhi observed "In no part of India has the food situation been so acute since the loss of Burma and Siam as in Travancore and Cochin and, naturally, these two States, which have all along acted as one unit to meet the food crisis, were the earliest to devise measures not only to control food prices, but also for the procurement and regulation of food grains grown within the States and for State wide rationing

Production can be substantially improved only by the use of artificial fertilisers, like ammonium sulphate, and by introducing improved methods of cultivation. Active steps have been taken in both these directions

Baroda

BARODA GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

The policy of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar has been set out clearly, says the Administration Report just issued. It is the close association of the people with the government. To give effect to this policy he has promulgated the new constitution which, in His Highness memorable words, "will emphasise once more the complete identity of interest between the ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the people." Baroda, says the Report, has developed for many decades on lines of its own and evolved an individuality of which it is justly proud. In constitutional matters too, it has developed forms and institutions, which, while giving full effect to the principle of close association, are suited to her conditions and serve her special needs. In the Dhura Sabha no attempt has been made to form blocks. Members always formed and expressed views, independently on the merits of individual issues. These valuable features are sought to be preserved, as far as possible we are told in the present constitution.

Cochin

SEPARATE 'VARSITY' FOR COCHIN

The possibility of a separate University for Cochin with her eight constituent colleges, in the nearest future was hinted at by Prof P Sankaran Nambiar, Principal, Maharaja's College and for some time Acting Director of Public Instruction, Cochin presiding over the "annual day" of the Sacred Heart's College, Thevara

Kashmir

PT NEHRU ON KASHMIR
ADMINISTRATION

Events in Kashmir following the arrest of state peoples Congress leaders have gone from bad to worse. As we write the military is in charge of important stations.

To the State authorities I would say that their actions are bringing grave discredit on their name, and no Government can live with that disgrace attached to it,' says Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of a statement on the Kashmir situation. 'The world still remembers Amritsar and Jallianwallah Bagh. Are we to have yet another gruesome memory to pursue us in the days to come?' he asks.

Pandit Nehru has postponed his visit to Kashmir for the present but says that he will go the moment he feels he can be of help in ending the conflict.

Whatever the rights and wrongs of any policy there are certain limits beyond which no Government dare go except at its peril. The Kashmir Government has gone beyond these limits in its desire to crush a popular movement which is firmly established in the hearts of the Kashmiris. We shall stand by the people of Kashmir and their leaders in this heavy trial that they are going through. If they have erred in any matter, we shall tell them so frankly but for the moment their blood is being shed in that lovely and fertile valley and all talk of legal niceties is quibbling. The fate of nations, when passions are aroused, is not decided by lawyers arguments.

Kashmir by itself is important but this issue obviously affects all the States in India and it is for all of them to consider its significance more specially at this time when we are supposed to be hammering out the future of India. It is a bad sign at this particular moment for the blood of a people to be shed and for State authorities to display their military might in repressing their own people. The talks that we are having about India's future become pale and shadowy before this grim reality.

Deccan States

UNION OF DECCAN STATES

The Rulers of Deccan States who have been considering for some time the possibility of forming a Union of Deccan States have now decided to start with to form a Union of the following States: Aundh, Jath, Jamkhadi, Kurundwad (Senior), Kurundwad (Junior), Miraj (Senior), Miraj (Junior), Phaltan, Ramdurg and Sangli. The Rulers of the States of Bhore and Savanur have also approved the idea of the Union. The Ruler of Akalkot will take a decision on the matter later.

The following general principles are understood to have been agreed upon for the formation of the Union. There will be a Board of Rulers which will exercise limited and constitutional sovereignty over the Union. The Board will be founded upon equal rights and responsibilities of all Rulers. There will be one Legislative Assembly and one Popular Ministry for the Union State. There will be common services and one exchequer. The boundaries of individual States will be obliterated. A committee has been appointed to make preliminary arrangements to set up a Constitution making Body to draw up the Constitution of the Union State. The Union State will be of the same size of Kolhapur State. On August 1 the Constitution making Body will be announced.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

ASIATIC LAND TENURE BILL

The Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill passed its Third Reading in the Senate on May 24 after a stormy passage through both Houses of Parliament lasting more than eight weeks

The Bill will restrict land purchases by Asiatics in Natal, in certain areas and provides for Indians to be represented in the Senate and the House of Assembly by Europeans and in the Natal Provincial Council by two members who may be either Indian or European

CR's APPEAL TO GEN SMUTS

Mr C Rajagopalachari has sent the following message to Mr Sorabjee Rustumji leader of the South African Indian Congress delegation on the eve of his departure for South Africa

'From 1946 India will be a free country. Soon by reason of her ancient and stable civilisation and her potential power in human skill and industry, she will be much more important than the South African Union of white people. No one need gloat over or scorn us for our present difficulties. God can easily create greater difficulties for South Africa in the near future! And He may, if it please Him make for us greater glory out of all our present troubles

'I appeal to Gen Smuts and his friends who row control South African affairs not to insult India. That much co-operation at least may be due from them to Britain in her endeavour to set Indo British relations right as an integral part of world settlement

Burma

REPATRIATION PROBLEM

The most pressing problem now facing several hundred thousands of Indians who have been held up in Burma for the last four years is how to get back to India. Representatives of the Indian community point out that while there is growing demand for more and more ships to India facilities afforded are hopelessly inadequate and procedure adopted to secure even these facilities led to serious complaints of favouritism and corruption. Shipping position is expected to worsen by the end of June unless arrangements are made to replace S S "Englestan" and S S "Jalagopal" which are due to go to docks for repairs.

The position is further aggravated by the absence of any facilities for accommodation in Rangoon where many thousands of Indians who arrived from districts in hope of securing passage to India are stranded.

Malaya

MEDICAL RELIEF IN MALAYA

The Government India Medical Mission which reached Malaya in March has now seven centres working, says a Press Note. These centres are all in the interior of the peninsula where the need for medical aid is greatest.

The total number of persons examined in these centres upto the beginning of May was 26,234. The State of malnutrition or famine diseases was happily not found to be so prominent a feature as was feared at one time.

The Government of Malayan Union has shown interest in the work of the Mission and has provided it every facility.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

CONGRESS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

The Congress Working Committee which concluded their session on May 24 at Delhi in a lengthy resolution criticised what they consider as objectionable features of the British Cabinet Mission's proposals and declared as follows:

In considering the statement the Working Committee have kept in view the picture of the future, in so far as this was available to them from the proposals made for the formation of a provisional Government and the clarification given by members of the delegation. This picture is still incomplete and vague. It is only on the basis of the full picture that they can judge and come to a decision as to how far this is in conformity with the objectives they aim at. These objectives are: Independence for India, a strong though limited, central authority, full autonomy for the provinces, the establishment of a federal structure in the centre and in the units, the guarantee of the fundamental rights of each individual so that he may have full and equal opportunities of growth, and further that each community should have opportunity to live the life of its choice within the larger framework.

The Committee regret to find a divergence between these objectives and the various proposals that have been made on behalf of the British Government, and, in particular, there is no vital change envisaged during the interim period when the provisional Government will function, in spite of the assurance given in para 23 of the statement. If the independence of India is aimed at, then the functioning of the provisional Government must approximate closely in fact, even though not in law, to that independence and all obstructions and hindrances to it should be removed. The continued presence of a foreign army of occupation is a negation of independence.

CABINET DELEGATION'S STATEMENT

The Cabinet Delegation and the Viceroy in a statement issued on May 25 after considering the statements of Mr Jinnah and the Congress Working Committee say "The scheme stands as a whole and can only succeed if it is accepted and worked in a spirit of co operation". The Delegation says that it is agreed that the Interim Government will have a new basis.

That basis is that all portfolios including that of the War Member will be held by Indians and that the members will be selected in consultation with the Indian political parties. These are very significant changes in the Government of India, and are a long step towards independence. His Majesty's Government will recognise the effect of these changes will attach the fullest weight to them, and will give to the Indian Government the greatest possible freedom in the exercise of the day to day administration of India.

The interpretation put by the Congress resolution of Paragraph 15 of the statement to the effect that the Provinces can in the first instance make the choice whether or not to belong to the section in which they are placed does not accord with the Delegation's intentions. The reasons for this grouping, if the Provinces are well known and this is an essential feature of the scheme and can only be modified by agreement between the parties.

As the Congress statement recognises, the present constitution must continue during the interim period and the Interim Government cannot therefore be made legally responsible to the Central Legislature.

The Delegation concludes:

There is of course no intention of retaining British troops in India against the wish of an independent India under the new constitution. It is during the interim period, which it is hoped will be short, the British Parliament has under the present constitution, the ultimate responsibility for the security of India, and it is necessary therefore that British troops should remain.

Utterances of the Day

THE VICEROY'S BROADCAST

In a broadcast message on May 17, His Excellency the Viceroy expressed his earnest desire that "in these critical times ahead in the interim period while the new constitution is being built the Government of India should be in the hands of the ablest of India's leaders, men recognised as such by the Indian people whom they will trust to further their interests and bring them to their goal."

Such a government, His Excellency added, "will be a purely Indian government, except for its head, the Governor General, and will include if I can get the men I want recognised leaders of main Indian parties, whose influence, ability and desire to serve India are unquestioned."

C R S APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE

Mr C Rajagopalachari, addressing a meeting at the Hindi Prachar Sabha, Thyagarayanagar, organised to accord a welcome to Mr Kasirajan and Mr Rajagopalan, prisoners in the Kulasekarapatnam Case on their release, and to offer thanks to all those who were responsible for their release appealed to them to make themselves fit for shouldering the heavy responsibility that lay before them. Mr. Rajagopalachari observed 'We have got Swaraj to-day. We have got rid of the disease. We have to labour to keep ourselves healthy. We should keep our own house in order and we have to build the solid edifice of the future. The obstacles presented by the British so long are fast disappearing. It is now upto us to do away with the differences amongst ourselves, find out the root cause of our trouble and remove it at once and without delay.'

MR GALLACHER ON THE NEW POLICY FOR INDIA

In the course of the Commons' debate on India Mr William Gallacher, Communist, said

"I think it is permissible for a Communist to rush in where a Tory hesitates to tread. What is the background of this situation? It is not, as Mr Davies has said, that we have an amazing record as regards the Empire. There is a population of 400 000 000 and in that country there is considerable mineral resources. Even when the war broke out in 1939 India was not in a position to make a tank or a gun. And famine is growing in that country. What credit is there in that? That is not bringing the nation forward. It is holding it back. Then we are faced with the fact that the old style of Government has gone completely bankrupt, and India is in the ferment of a revolution."

FRONTIER LEADER ON CABINET PLAN

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, addressing a meeting of the Frontier Students' Congress at Kohat, strongly opposed compulsion in grouping of provinces. He said

Compulsory grouping will not only impair the liberty of each province it will also be against the cherished principle of self determination of the Muslim League. Piron Islam says, 'Don't do to others what you don't like to be done to yourself.' But the very objection which was used against the Congress by the Muslim League is now being forced upon us against our wishes. The question of joining a Group should have been left to the choice of each province. These things cannot be done by compulsion or force if such a thing would have been possible. Englishmen would have never agreed to leave India. These people who want us to join them should come forward to us and ask our views on removing our doubts if they are our friends and leave it to our free will to do what we think best for ourselves.

LEAGUE AND THE CABINET PLAN

The Muslim League Council, in its resolution passed on June 6 accepted the Cabinet Mission's scheme and agreed to join the constitution making body, but added that the League will keep in view the opportunity and the right of secession of provinces or groups from the Union which have been provided in the Mission's Plan by implication

"The ultimate attitude of the Muslim League," the resolution went on, "will depend on the final outcome of the labours of the constitution making body and on the final shape of the constitution which may emerge from the deliberations of that body jointly and separately in its three sections

"The Muslim League also reserves the right to modify and revise the policy and attitude set forth in this resolution at any time during the progress of deliberations of the constitution making body or the Constituent Assembly or thereafter if the course of events so require"

With regard to arrangements for the proposed Interim Government at the Centre, the Council authorised Mr Jinnah to negotiate with the Viceroy and take such decisions and actions as he deemed fit and proper

INDONESIA'S OFFER TO INDIA

An indication that Indonesia's offer of half a million tons of rice to India in exchange for textiles and agricultural implements will soon materialise is given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in a statement summing up the results of the negotiations

U P GOVERNMENT'S DECISION

The Congress Government in U P had, decided to return the collective fines amounting to Rs 35 lakhs collected during the August 1942 disturbances, Premier Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant told Pressmen on May 25

The Premier added, that lists of individuals from whom fines were realised were not available and it was, therefore difficult to trace individuals who paid the fines The Government would advise the villagers to utilise the refunded amounts in a manner benefiting the population of the village He also indicated that Government would be prepared to contribute to the success of any scheme formulated by the villagers

SHAW ON INDIAN FREEDOM

George Bernard Shaw, in a message to the Organising Secretary of the Tagore Society, which had invited him to be the guest of honour at a Tagore birthday dinner, says "India should be set free to manage her own affairs If she chooses to divide herself into 50 Pakistans, and fight it out in 50 civil wars, that is her business, not ours"

BENGAL SECURITY PRISONERS

The Government of Bengal has issued orders for the release of all the remaining Security prisoners in the province

The A P I understands that there are about 29 security prisoners in detention at present in Bengal

A Congress deputation waited on Bengal Premier Mr H S Suhrawardy to urge "the release of all political prisoners and the removal of restraint orders on some others"

FREE EDUCATION FOR ALL

A programme for a universal system of compulsory, free elementary education of six to eight years' duration and for conscription of qualified persons as teachers to carry out the plan has been proposed to the National Planning Committee by its Priority Sub Committee dealing with education

The Sub Committee declared that education of children of the community upto a given minimum standard must be accepted as the absolute and inescapable obligation of civilised society and therefore of the State representing it

The huge programme, whose basic cost was estimated at not less than 200 crores of rupees annually could be financed over a period of ten years or more and chiefly paid for by the funding of private agricultural debt through the State at a lower interest rate, the Sub Committee added

The chief points in the education plan included the following (1) a required elementary education period for children of six to eight years' duration, (2) an adult literacy programme for both sexes both for those past the school age and those remaining illiterate because of wastage or stagnation in their school period (3) free nursery or kindergarden classes for children under school age at the expense of employers, local governing bodies and voluntary associations, (4) free books, stationery and other equipment, (5) conscription of qualified persons as teachers and special provision for training one lakh of teachers annually, along with increases in salaries

as well as other facilities and amenities, (6) serving of free mid day meals in elementary schools and (7) use of the radio and the motion picture as part of the educational programme especially for adult illiterates

The Sub Committee specified that the education programme should be integrated with the national master plan, particularly in regard to financing

HIGHER TECHNICAL TRAINING

Four technical institutions for imparting higher technical education are likely to be established in the near future in different parts of India

The All India Council for Technical Education, at its inaugural meeting passed a resolution endorsing this proposal of the Sarkar Committee which was set up to consider the establishment of higher technical institutions in India on the lines of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

As it may not be possible to establish all the four institutions simultaneously, the institutions which are established first will cater to the needs of the whole country, paying special attention to areas backward in facilities for technical education, such as the Central Provinces, Orissa, Assam and the North West Frontier Province

The Council has also recommended the urgent need to improve the existing engineering and technological institutions by generous grants from the centre as well as the provinces. A committee is to be appointed to make specific recommendations in this connection

AN INDIAN PRIVY COUNCIL

The possibility of the need for an Indian branch of the Privy Council is envisaged by a correspondent, Mr Richard Jebb, in a letter to the *London Times*

Mr. Jebb refers to a suggestion already put forward for an "Imperial Privy Council" adding, "The Privy Council is by origin a monarchical institution and to day the sole constitutional link between sovereign Britannic states is their 'common allegiance to the Crown. Surely, therefore his Britannic Majesty ought to have Privy Councillors of equal right honourable rank in each"

Mr Jebb points out There is also an Indian aspect Supposing chronic deadlock persists, the next step forward could only be to free the existing Government of India from Control in London The situation would seem to call for an Indian branch of, the Privy Council its members to be chosen by the Viceroy from lists submitted by indigenous organisations—not political only, but comprehending the widest range of interests—and also the Indian States Such a truly representative body united by the principle of fealty which is traditional throughout India should be fully capable of devising an adjustment of the governmental system to conditions of independence

DR JAYAKAR FOR JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The Lord Chancellor in England has invited Dr M R Jayakar to sit as a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council during the summer sessions to dispose of Indian appeals pending before that Board

LAWYERS AND POLITICAL OFFENCES

The possibility of the early introduction of a Bill for the removal of disabilities imposed on a number of lawyers in the Province owing to disciplinary action taken against them by law courts for alleged offences of a political character before and after August 1942, was foreshadowed by Mr K Bashyam, Minister for Law, in Madras, at a Press interview.

The Minister was asked if the Government were not giving relief to lawyers totalling about a hundred, against whom disciplinary action had been taken for political reasons

The Minister, replying recalled the attempt made by Mr T T Krishnamachari ex M L A to introduce a Bill in the Central Assembly for the purpose, 'and expressed the view that it was constitutionally permissible to introduce a measure of that kind in the Madras Assembly

KING GEORGE'S TITLES

Constitutional lawyers and legal advisers to the Crown are considering what changes in the Royal titles will be necessary if and when the Government's proposals for India come into force states the Sunday newspaper, *News of the World*

'Queen Victoria assumed the title of the Empress of India under the Royal Titles Act in 1877 and the title of the Emperor of India remains to day a constituent part of the King's official 'style' If under the new constitution for India this title has to be dropped the consent of each of the Dominion Parliaments, as well as of the British Parliament will have to be obtained before an alternation can be legally effected This is in accordance with the Statute of Westminster'

FUTURE OF INDIAN INSURANCE

"The future of Life Insurance in India is as bright as ever, and I do not share the view that the cessation of hostilities would arrest the great advance made during the closing year of the war by insurance in general, and Life insurance in particular", said Mr L N Birla, addressing the Annual General Meeting of the New Asiatic Insurance Co Ltd at Calcutta on May 21.

Emphasising the necessity of introducing social insurance, he mentioned that a Sickness Benefit Insurance scheme has already been initiated by the New Asiatic Insurance Co, in the city of Calcutta.

Discussing the question of the nationalisation of insurance Mr Birla said, 'It is premature to talk about nationalisation of insurance when insurance has yet to be developed to a very great extent. There can only be two factors necessitating the immediate nationalisation of insurance, (i) unduly large profits made by the share holders of insurance companies and (ii) extravagant expenses under commission and similar heads. With regard to the first point, we find that the profits made by them are not at all high in relation to the funds and the amount of business they handle. With regard to the second point, the Government has recently introduced a Bill which, if passed, will put a limit on expenses and check extravagance. Nationalisation of insurance, therefore, would not appear to be warranted at this stage. What we need now, above all, for efficient service is healthy competition among insurance companies to give better facilities to the masses, make the masses insurance-conscious and secure for them as low premia as possible."

SAFE BUILDINGS FOR MADRAS

The findings of the Committee reporting on the accident at the Prithvi Insurance Building leave no doubt about the need for urgent and drastic action to regularise building in Madras City. Such building rules as now exist are so inadequate, defective, and vague that they are incapable of proper application. Clearly the Government and the City Council should implement immediately the Committee's recommendation to set up an expert panel to frame comprehensive and unambiguous bylaws to the end that all structures built hereafter shall be safe and conform to accepted hygienic principles.

INSURANCE OF STATE SERVANTS

The scheme for compulsory insurance of all government servants in Baroda was put into operation in 1940. It applies to persons who joined service after 1st August 1940, and to those already in service on that date, unless they were over forty years of age or drew a salary of Rs 20 or less per month, or were already insured for the prescribed amount. The director of statistics is in charge of this department.

During the year, 1468 proposals for insurance were received, 1261 were accepted, 136 rejected and 40 were pending. The total number of proposals accepted up to the end of the year was 6,464 which brought an annual premium of Rs 146 lakhs.

The total insurance fund invested amounted to Rs 350 lakhs at the end of the year, as against Rs 235 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

Trade and Finance

NEW CONVERSION LOANS

The Government of India have taken a further step in pursuance of their cheap money policy. They have given notice of their intention to repay all the outstanding $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent non terminable loans on September 16 1946

Holders of these loans says a Press Note are being given the option of converting their holdings into two new loans one at 3 per cent non terminable loan issued at par and the other at $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent terminable loan issued at Rs 99 per cent and repayable at par on September 16 1976. The Conversion facilities will be available from August 16 1946 to September 16 1946 inclusive. Application for conversion will be received at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India and the Imperial Bank of India and at all Government Treasuries. No cash subscriptions will be received for these loans.

BRITISH FIRMS IN INDIA

A two fold process of Indianisation of British firms operating in India has been going on recently. On the one side control and ownership of some of these firms have passed into Indian hands by sale to Indians. On the other several firms are converting themselves into rupee companies taking in Indians as partners.

The movement started nearly three years back when several South Indian plantations were bought over by Indian businessmen and new rupee companies were floated or additional capital raised by existing companies. Recently this movement has gathered momentum and several companies have been acquired by Indian businessmen either as a result of direct negotiations with the interests concerned or by buying up a majority of shares on the stock exchanges.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

Authoritative sources in London declare that British business concerns in India have received assurances that their interests will not in any way be impaired through any change in the Indian Government or Constitution. These sources said that such assurances will be a feature of any Instrument for the transference of power that might be agreed upon and will probably form a clause in the contemplated Indo British treaty.

The semi official publication *Indian Affairs* has estimated the British commercial interests in India at £240 000 000.

DECONTROLLED

Further categories of goods falling under the Import Trade Control schedule have since been de controlled and brought under the open General Licence No VII. The principal articles which can thereby be imported from British Empire countries in the sterling area without licence are cotton thread other than sewing or darning thread manufactures of wool including felt, arms and ammunition and aeroplanes and parts thereof and all manufactured articles used in aircraft construction.

IMPORT TRADE CONTROL

Advantage is being taken of the presence in India of Mr P C Chaudhuri OBE ICS Director of the India Supply Commission London who has been placed on special duty in the office of the Chief Controller of imports to make investigations into the administration of import trade control both at certain of the ports and at headquarters.

RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The United Nations Sub-Commission on the status of women has recommended universal suffrage, the elimination of prostitution, monogamous family life and equality of the sexes in political and civil rights. These recommendations were sent to the parent body, the commission on human rights. Inclusion of a clause that women are entitled to a monogamous home or family was made by Miss Angella Jurdan of Lebanon. Marie Lefaucheur of France said she could not agree to this because in many French colonies polygamy was accepted, adding "I do not believe we are here to discuss this matter." Mrs. Hansa Mehta of India said: "If we are to raise the status of women we must not be afraid to fight these old customs. We cannot be bettered for example by the practice of child marriages."

The Sub-Commission also agreed to recommend that women be allowed to retain their nationality regardless of marriage and that children choose their nationality upon maturity.

MATERNITY HOMES

In Tsarist Russia, 95 per cent of the women gave birth without any medical assistance. Every year some 30,000 women died in childbirth. By 1940, the "Ussr" had reached the stage where more than 95 per cent of women gave birth in maternity homes. In the national republics there were no maternity homes whatever in Tsarist times. Peasant women were in most cases tended by old grand mothers. Now in the Soviet countryside, tens of thousands of beds are available for peasant women in collective farm maternity homes.

MARRIAGE MART IN OCCUPIED GERMANY

The marriage mart is booming in occupied Germany, says a message from Frankfurt.

In downtown Frankfurt you can pick a candidate for wife or husband right off a public notices board, next to the one which offers articles for trade or sale. Many more marriage offers are carried in classified advertising columns of some newspapers.

The ratio of women to men is disproportionately high in Germany because of war losses—four to one in the 19 to 45 age groups in the American zone—so naturally women are in the majority as bidders in the marriage columns. But offers from men are increasing as more and more return from prisoner of war camps and seek to start life anew.

Offers come from all age groups. Many young war widows are among the bidders.

Women especially make a point of stating what they have to offer—especially in hard to get lodgings and furniture. A 29 year old widow describes herself not only as "dark and attractive" but emphasizes that she owns household furniture.

A widow aged 40 lists her "good looks," admits she has a 19 year-old son who's also "handsome," then adds that she owns "a house and garden in Oberbaden."

Many women advertise their "good health" ahead of good looks. Age is no bar. A woman of 60 who represents herself as "intelligent and vigorous" bids for an "elderly man."

UP PRESS CONFERENCE

The role that we Pressmen have to play in the life of the community raises issues transcending the purely professional boundaries. We are the trustees of the public as well as of the interests of the organisations we serve. We have to reconcile the two interests and I am sure it can be done. Thus said Mr Durga Das Joint Editor of the *Hindustan Times*, presiding over the Third U P Press Conference held at Cawnpore on May 11.

Mr Durga Das added. A healthy and free Press is in modern times as essential for the life of a community as fresh air is to our physical being. An intelligent Press is to the body politic what the spirit is to the human body. We should therefore do our best to make the Press healthy, free and intelligent.

Mr Durga Das said that journalism had long been a mission and they had now the chance of making it a profession or an industry. He hoped they would make it an honourable profession.

PUBLICATION OF RIOT NEWS

To prevent intensification of ill feeling in times of communal tension certain conventions to be observed by newspapers in the matter of publication of riot news have been evolved at a conference of newspaper editors in the city of Bombay held on April 24 with the Home Minister Mr Morarji Desai in the chair.

These conventions which have now been issued to the Press by the Secretary of the Provincial Press Advisory Committee advise newspapers not to publish details of any communal rioting which are likely to lead to the identification of the community of the persons involved. In cases of communal disturbances breaking out a committee representative of the Press will be set up to collect scrutinise and prepare a common report for all papers and the papers should agree to publish the common report only. The committee will accredit a panel of reporters who alone would be given full facilities for collection of information in the disturbed area.

THE LATE SIR A P PATRO

We regret to report the death on May 26 of Sir A P Patro at his residence in Royapettah after a brief illness. He was aged 71.

Sir A P Patro was born in 1875 graduated in law and set up practice at Ganjam becoming in a short period one of the leaders of the Ganjam Bar. He took great interest in agricultural development and made a special study of the economic condition of the ryot. His main conclusions on this subject he set out in a book titled *Rural Economics*.

Sir A P Patro was connected with the administration of local bodies for over twenty years.

Sir Parasuram represented Ganjam in the Madras Legislative Council from 1920 to 1936. In 1921 he was chosen a Minister under Dyarchy and was entrusted with the portfolio of Education, Public Works and Excise. This position he held till 1927. As Minister of Education he was responsible for the Madras University Reorganisation Act (1923) and the Andhra University Act.

A prominent member of the Justice Party he was elected President and Leader of the Non-Brahmin Movement in 1931.

Sir A P Patro presided over the All Parties Conference held in Delhi in 1930 to find a solution to the communal problem. He represented India at the League of Nations at Geneva in 1931 and attended the sessions of the Round Table Conference in 1931-32 and the sittings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Reforms in 1933.

Sir A P Patro had been a member of the Council of State since 1937. He was knighted in 1924 and made a KCIE in 1935.

Sir A P Patro leaves behind a son Mr A V Patro Deputy Commissioner of Police Madras and a daughter to whom we extend our sincere condolences.

SIR GURUNATH BEVOOR JOINING TATAS

Sr Gurunath Bevoor, Secretary of Posts and Air, Government of India who has proceeded on ten months leave preparatory to retirement has accepted Tata's offer of directorship.

NUFFIELD RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Trustees of the Nuffield Foundation have decided to offer to Indians, Australians, Canadians, New Zealanders and South Africans a number of medical travelling fellowships in the years 1946-47 says a Press Note. The object of the fellowships is to enable suitably qualified persons from the countries concerned to obtain in the United Kingdom such postgraduate training and experience as may be necessary to prepare them to undertake subsequently medical teaching and research work on their return to their own countries. Each fellowship, the annual value of which will be between £300 and £800 will be tenable in the U K up to a period of two years. About five fellowships will be available for Indian students.

The fellowships will be available only to persons who hold recognised medical qualifications and whose talents and personal inclinations afford good promise of their ability to advance knowledge and education in some branch of medicine. Preference will be given to candidates who have served as medical officers with the armed and auxiliary forces in the war.

COMMISSION ON AYURVEDA

Col Sir R N Chopra, who is at present Director of the Drug Research Laboratory in Kashmir, and Kaviraj Lal Gupta, Principal of the Calcutta Ayurvedic College, have, it is learnt, agreed to go to Ceylon to serve on the Commission on Ayurveda. The terms of appointment of both Sir R N Chopra and Kaviraj Lal Gupta were considered by the Ceylon Ministry of Health and it was agreed to pay them a fee of Rs 100 per day during the period of their engagement and their expenses from the date of their departure from India till their return home.

They are to investigate and report on the organisation of the College of Indigenous Medicine and the system of teaching and training of students at that institution and also to report on the general policy to be adopted by the Government in the development of the indigenous system of medicine in Ceylon.

SCHEMES OF DIET IMPROVEMENT

It should be made obligatory for manufacturers of foodstuffs in India to indicate on the packages the main components and the proportions in which they are used. This was one of the recommendations made by the Nutrition Sub Committee of the Regional Rationing Advisory Panel, Madras, at a meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Regional Food Commissioner, Dewan Bahadur C P Karunakara Menon. It was felt that such a system would help not only to protect the public from quack foods but also indirectly to educate them in matters of health and nutrition.

The Sub Committee emphasised the value of special nutrition surveys by trained personnel, which in addition to providing Administrations with valuable data for schemes of diet improvement, would also incidentally assist employers in fixing minimum scales of pay, etc.

HONEY AS SLIMMING DIET

The prevalent view that sweet stuffs—and particularly honey—are fattening is quite wrong according to a nutrition expert writing in a Budapest paper.

Honey can safely be placed on any slimming diet and can be guaranteed to show quick results without the usual hunger and irritability that such diets often bring in their wake.

Athenians who grew to a ripe old age, coined the phrase *Exteriora oleo, interiora melle irriigo* or in plain English,

"I anoint my limbs with oil but cleanse my system with honey." Honey has, for many years, been successfully used against heart and kidney diseases and constipation.

HEART MACHINE

American scientists, in collaboration with electrical experts, have invented a machine which records the exact action of the heart on a reel of paper.

The machine, which is about the size of a portable radio set, weighs 34 lbs and has been named the 'cardiotron'. It has been tested for two years in hospitals.

BANKING COMPANIES BILL

The Banking Companies Bill contain some comprehensive provisions designed to ensure the working of banks on sound lines. It will, however, take a considerable time before the Bill is placed on the Statute Book. In the meantime, the rapid expansion of banks during recent years has been attended by certain undesirable trends, such as the tendency to acquire control of non banking companies by the purchase of the latter's shares at inflated prices, the interlocking of shares between banks and other companies, the grant of large unsecured loans to persons connected with the management, indiscriminate expansion of branches and in general utilization of banks' funds to the detriment of the interests of depositors.

Early action to check these and other unsound and speculative practices is necessary if the structure of Indian banking is to be preserved from injury during the difficult years of transition from war to peace economy.

DR DALTON TO SUCCEED LORD KEYNES

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Dr Hugh Dalton, will succeed Lord Keynes as the Governor of the International Monetary Fund and International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, the British Treasury has announced.

Sir James Grigg has been designated Executive Director of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development but as he will not be able to go to Washington immediately the Hon R H Brand will serve as Director pending his arrival.

INDIA AND WORLD BANK

India has been assured of an undisputed membership on the Executive Directorates of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, even if Russia joins both the organisations this year, as the Executive Directors of the World Bank approved a resolution increasing their number to 13

PRESSURE VENTILATION ON RAILWAYS

Experiments in pressure ventilating of third class suburban electric coaches, which might provide improved travel conditions in the near future, are being conducted by the B B and C I and G I P Railways. The principle of pressure ventilation, it was explained by an official of the Company, was that of thoroughly and continuously ventilating the coach with a large quantity of fresh air moving at slow speed. This is provided by blower fans placed in the roof of the coach at each end. This air is then introduced into the passenger space through a special perforated ceiling and superimposing on that supply, a second supply of air, moving at a higher speed, through fixed or moving apertures in order to give the effect of fans. All air is removed from the coach through vents at the bottom.

END OF S I R STRIKE

Mr J F C Reynolds, General Manager, South Indian Railway, has issued a Press communique stating that "the strike of the Railway servants has ended and that all the strikers resumed duty on May 21

"Thanks to the unswerving loyalty of the remainder of the staff, the Administration has been able to maintain all the essential features of the services, both passenger and goods, subject of course to slight disorganisation here and there

"The Administration thanks the public for their forbearance in the matter of any inconveniences which they may have suffered during this time."

ALL METAL RAIL COACH FOR INDIA

The first all metal railway coach, constructed by the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, Bangalore, under orders placed by the Government of India has now been completed and handed over to the M and S M Railway authorities for a trial run. If this proves satisfactory, the new model will be sent to Delhi for the approval of the Railway Board.

STOLEN ART TREASURES

£2 000 reward has been offered for the recovery of 17 precious objects, valued at several thousands of pounds stolen by six masked men who raided Hever Castle, the home of Colonel J J Astor, Chairman of the (*Times*) April last

The articles stolen included Anne Boleyn's prayer book, which she carried to the scaffold. It is two and a half inches by one and a half inches with illuminated capital letters, and was given her by King Henry VIII

Queen Elizabeth's prayer book in brown and black leather binding with an enamelled gold clasp set with rubies

The prayer book of Emperor Charles V
A gold hexagonal signet ring of Henry VIII, enamelled with the Arms of England

A Louis XVI snuff box presented by Emperor Napoleon to the Empress Marie Louis, gold with blue panels decorated with bees—the cypher of Napoleon—and the lid stamped with the monogram of Marie Louis in pearls and diamonds

Three other snuff boxes, an Indian dagger with a pale green jade hilt and heath, set with precious stones and gilt

A miniature of Lady Hamilton in a gold oval frame, three other miniatures of women and a gold Charles I medal

It is believed that more than 1 000 gems and works of art were stolen

GREATNESS OF SRI THYAGARAJA

Paying a tribute to the greatness of Saint Thyagaraja at a concert given by Sri M S Subbulakshmi, Vidwan Chowdiah and party at Matunga, Bombay, Mr B G. Kher, Prime Minister of Bombay, who presided on the occasion, pointed out how music had acted as a unifying force in our country and brought Hindus and Muslims together and advised the people not to neglect proper research into the lives of the great musician saints like Sri Thyagaraja

Unravelling the beauty of Karnataka music technique of Thyagaraja and his great contemporaries, Sri Subbulakshmi drew repeated encores in Kirtans

SPORTS STADIUM FOR BOMBAY

Bombay will shortly have a sports stadium estimated to cost about Rs 20,00,000 where athletics, cycle racing and aquatic feats can be held

The stadium will be built on a plot of ground offered by the Government of Bombay in the north part of the city and will include a cinder running track, a bitumen banked cycle track and a 50 metres swimming pool based on the Olympic pattern. Provision is also made for stands accommodating 50,000 spectators, dressing rooms for men and women, fitted with up to date sanitary and bathing facilities, restaurant, office store rooms, and many other little things necessary in these days

CYCLIST CHAMPIONSHIP

The National Cyclists' Federation of India announces that All India trials to select India's representatives for the forthcoming world cycling championships to be held at Zurich (Switzerland) from August 23 to September 1 will take place at the Oval, Bombay, this month. As the road and track conditions in Switzerland are different from those in India, only events to judge speed and stamina against the clock will be conducted. Entries, have reached the National Cyclists' Federation of India, Brabourne Stadium, Bombay, by June 1, 1946

SWIMMING BATH IN PATIALA

The Patiala State Olympic Association is building a standard swimming bath for purposes of holding the Indian Swimming Championships and International contests whenever possible. The bath which will be on Wembley design will have the necessary diving stage with standard boards and seating accommodation in the arena to accommodate four to five thousand spectators

MARYLEBON CRICKET CLUB

At the annual general meeting of the MCC held at Lord's, it was announced that General Sir Ronald Adams is succeeding Mr Stanley Christopherson as President

Mr Christopherson has been President of the M C C since 1939

NEW U S SECRET WEAPON

The United States has a secret germ spray weapon "far more deadly than the Atomic Bomb", members of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives disclosed to reporters at Washington on May 24

One member said "The Navy has developed, to a point where it can now be used; a weapon which can wipe out all form of life in a large city if the germ is sprayed from planes that can fly high enough while doing it to be reasonably safe from ground fire. It is quick and certain death to the city as the germs are highly contagious, and the effects would spread rapidly. One operation would be sufficient"

The member said that the spray dropped on fields would destroy all crops, even the seeds in the ground

RESEARCH IN ATOMIC PHYSICS

Grants totalling £191,000 for research in Atomic Physics are to be made by the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The grants will be made to Prof M L Oliphant, Professor of Nuclear Physics at Birmingham University, and Prof P I Dee of Glasgow and will be used in attempts to attain the most rapidly moving electrical particles ever produced

COSMIC RAY RESEARCH IN INDIA

Some details of the cosmic ray experiments conducted in India under the direction of Dr Homi J Bhabha of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Bombay, are now available

The most important part of the experiment consisted of an ascent into the stratosphere, 40,000 feet above earth's surface, by plane

At 40,000 feet, the camera failed to function and they had to depend on their personal observation of the Geiger counter which records the cosmic ray hits

FOREIGN FILM INTERESTS IN INDIA

The Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association has registered its opposition to the reported move on the part of foreign film interests to take charge of the distribution of 16 mm film in this country. This move, the Association feels, is a matter of serious consequence to the Indian film industry and the national economy of the country. The Indian film industry is anxious to play its role in making available to isolated communities in the country entertainment educational and documentary films. The industry has, for the present, to depend upon foreign equipment for the development of its 16 mm film market. The U S film industry, it is pointed out, will steal a march over the indigenous industry if the field is left open to it.

INDIAN PEASANTS' LIFE TO BE SCREENED

The life of the Indian peasant, with the Bengal famine for its background, will be screened in the United States, Britain, and Russia in the near future. The film which is produced by the Indian People's Theatre Association and is directed by Khwaja Ahmad Abbas Congress and Muslim League leaders and over a hundred foreign and Indian journalists were present at the preview. A feature of the film is that it has no 'stars', all the artistes appearing in it being members of the People's Theatre organisation

The story is entitled "Children of the Earth"

NON INFLAMMABLE FILM

A new kind of non inflammable film, capable of withstanding a temperature of 1,000 degrees Centigrade, as well as being waterproof, has been invented by a Georgian scientist. The film is called benzonite. It is an electrical insulator and is made extremely strong by the admixture of silk or cotton combs. Wide use is expected for the new film which is to be put into production on a large scale

ALUMINIUM CARS BEING BUILT

Faced with a shortage of steel as a result of the strike Mr. Henry J. Kaiser, famous for his wartime shipbuilding has announced that he is manufacturing aluminium cars.

The first aluminium car will be on the road shortly, he promised. It will come from the factories of the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation, the motor car concern which Mr. Kaiser organised with Mr. John W. Frazer.

Mr. Kaiser added that the company planned to produce aluminium cars for those who could afford them regardless of whether steel becomes available in sufficient quantities.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

How many people realise that nearly as many deaths have been caused in road accidents in wartime Britain as by enemy bombs. Up to the end of last year more than 41,000 persons were killed on the roads and 117,000 injured, says a writer in the *Illustrated Weekly*.

These figures were quoted by Mr. Noel Baker, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of War Transport when he supported a Bill to make rear lights on bicycles compulsory.

The fearful problem of road accidents is one that must be tackled by every Government in the world—and not least of all by the Central and Provincial Governments of this country.

TO BUILD A MOTOR FACTORY

The Bengal Government is acquiring under the Land Acquisition Act over a hundred acres of land in the Hooghly district on behalf of Hindustan Motors Ltd., to enable the latter to construct workshops and factories for the assembly and manufacture of motor vehicles.

The workshops and factories are to be completed within two years from the date on which possession of the land is given to the company.

INDIA—CEYLON AIR SERVICE

It is understood that the Tatas are revising the time table of the north bound air service from Colombo to Karachi from June 15. Planes will take off from the Colombo Ratnamala aerodrome at 6.30 a.m. instead of at 8.45 a.m. from the military aerodrome which is 20 miles from the city. The Ceylon Government have now made the Ratnamala aerodrome available to the Tata Air Lines which has enabled the latter to leave Colombo early morning. From this month north bound planes will arrive in Madras at 9.15 a.m., and leave at about 10 reaching Bombay at tea time.

AIR SERVICE FOR SOUTHERN STATES

It is understood that the Travancore and Cochin Governments have indicated their willingness to enter into an agreement with Tata Airlines for the purpose of running an air service between Madras, Bangalore, Cochin and Trivandrum three times a week in each direction at the start and increasing it to a daily service as soon as possible thereafter.

BOMBAY—CALCUTTA TATA AIR SERVICE

It is learnt that the Tatas' present weekly air service to Calcutta will be increased to two or three times a week about the end of this month. Later as soon as regular supplies of spare parts required for the maintenance of Douglas machines are available it will be converted into a daily service.

A NEW TYPE OF AIRCRAFT

The fast 22 seater Vickers Viking aircraft will soon be employed by Indian National Airways in their various services in India. A number of senior crew of the Airways is shortly due to proceed to United Kingdom for intensive training for flying this latest type of airplane.

BIG INDIAN ORDER FOR AIRCRAFT

A £250,000 order from the Indian National Airways is the latest of heavy overseas orders received by the U.K. aircraft industry. The order is for 6 Vickers Vikings—new twin engined airliners.

THE CEMENT INDUSTRY

Judged by the prevailing standards in the country, the cement industry has done well by its labour, so far as working conditions, housing, welfare work and provision for the future are concerned.

The cement industry has a great natural advantage in this country in that excellent limestone is abundant in many parts, close to railways. The first cement factory was probably established in 1904 in Madras. During World War I several big factories sprang up and the industry made rapid progress. The production of cement which was only 945 tons in 1914 increased in ten years to about 250 000 tons a year. The fear of internal and external competition was inquired into by the Tariff Board which recommended subsidies for the industry in 1925. The following year the Government imposed a duty on imported cement. Internal competition was eliminated by the consolidation of independent companies into combines and by agreements on production and sales. Since the last war, great progress has been recorded and cement production rose from 1 500 000 tons in 1939 to about 2 500 000 tons at present. A striking feature of the industry is that it manufactures its own plant. Because of this and because of the Central and Provincial Governments' plans to construct roads, bridges and buildings, the future of the industry seems assured.

HANDLOOM CLOTH FOR MADRAS

The Madras Government propose to introduce a scheme to control prices of handloom cloth, whereby a reduction in prices by about 15 per cent on the average is expected. Mr T. Prakasam, Premier, announced this in the Legislative Council on May 28.

Under this scheme there will be no interference with the wages paid to actual weavers, the Premier said. The object of the scheme is to check profiteering by middlemen.

BIHAR MINISTER'S PLAN

The need for co-operative farming in Bihar and the necessity to send some officers to Russia to learn Soviet methods were suggested by Hon. Dr. Syed Mahmud, Development Minister of Bihar, addressing the conference of the Senior officers of the Agriculture Department at Patna.

'I am very much interested in the development of co-operative farming in this province,' he said. 'Immediate attention should be paid to it. We may have to take time to evolve a programme and we may have to send people to Russia to see how they run their co-operative farms. I have no doubt in my mind that co-operative farming will be essential for the development of agriculture in this province. I want each one of you to think how best to develop the co-operative farming in Bihar.'

MANURE

The total quantity of sulphate of ammonia allocated to India by the Combined Food Board during the period 1st July, 1945 and 30th June, 1946 is 1,54 000 tons. For the fertilizer year 1st July 1946 to 30th June, 1947 the Department of Agriculture has indentured for 2 40 000 tons of sulphate of ammonia, 20 000 tons of which will be produced in the country. Reports indicated that the Travancore Factory for its production will be operating from this month but it is doubtful if appreciable quantities would be available from that source until much later.

In order to encourage the increased production of foodcrops, the Central Government have sanctioned several schemes subsidizing distribution of sulphate of ammonia, bonemeal and oil cakes. During the period 1945-46 grants amounting to Rs. 27 16 050 and loans amounting to Rs. 61,74,700 were given to Provinces for this purpose.

During 1945-46 the Government of India also sanctioned loans and grants amounting to Rs. 84 lakhs and Rs. 32 67 lakhs respectively.

ESTATE LABOURERS

Of the 800 000 Indians in Ceylon, over 600 000 were estate labourers working mainly on tea and rubber estates. In all there were 1516 estates employing Indian labour. The ban on the emigration of unskilled labour from India to Ceylon imposed by the Government of India in 1939 continued in force during the year 1944. From October 1 1944 the Government of India took over the direct supervision of the work under the Indian Emigration Act and a Controller General of Emigration was appointed. Both tea and rubber continued to fetch good prices during the year. There was shortage of labour on tea and rubber estates and in general throughout the Island.

There was provision for statutory minimum wages for tea and rubber industries which has since been extended to various other industries. The minimum wages fixed by the Wages Boards were about Rs 15 10 0 to Rs 1 80 per day. The wages for a woman and a child were less being about Rs 0 13 0 and Rs 0 11 4 respectively.

LABOUR IN EGYPT

The Egyptian Draft Law stipulates that the proportion of Egyptian employees in a company should not be less than two thirds of its total number of employees while 90 per cent of the total number of workmen of all grades shall be Egyptians. The law stipulates that salaries of Egyptian employees should be equal to at least 60 per cent of the total amount of salaries and to at least 60 per cent of the total amount of wages paid to workmen of all grades.

PREFABRICATED HOUSES FOR LABOURERS

It is understood that the U P Government is considering a proposal to construct cheap model houses for labourers in all the principal cities and towns and the Government has called for schemes from different district officers.

The ambition is to build prefabricated houses on the American and English model.

THE LATE DR SUDHINDRA BOSE

Dr Sudhindra Bose one of United States' outstanding authorities in Oriental politics died at Iowa City on May 27, of heart ailment at the age of 63.

Dr Bose was born near Calcutta and educated in the Universities of Calcutta, Illinois and Chicago and received his Ph D degree at the University of Iowa. He had been teaching since 1921 and is believed to be the first Indian ever to become a member of the staff of the Political Science Department of an American University. Dr Bose was a member of the American Political Science Association. He leaves behind him his wife, brother and sister who are in India.

Dr Sudhindra Bose was a frequent contributor to this *Review* for several years past.

NEGRO LEADER HONOURED

For the first time in Negro history, the educator, Booker T Washington's bust was placed in New York University's Hall of Fame. President Truman in a message said: "Now he is numbered among the immortal Americans in the Hall of Fame. In the years to come he will be an inspiration to every American who forged ahead despite any obstacle that his birth or origin may place in his way. It is a privilege to join in this tribute. Washington, though slave born, rose to international eminence opening a Negro college etc."

MR N G RANGA IN LONDON

Mr N G Ranga M L A (Central), who is at present in London as a delegate to the World Primary Food Producers' Conference has been elected Chairman of the Nutrition Sub Committee of the Conference, says a London message.

CUT IN NEWSPRINT QUOTA

As the newsprint supply position continues to deteriorate the Government of India have decided to withdraw the 25 per cent increase in newsprint quota allowed to all newspapers.

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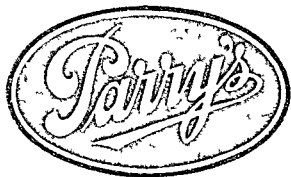
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Potato	Brinjals	Luffa
Sweet Potato	Peas	Cucumber
Radish	Turnips	Cabbage
Carrots	Spinach	Cauliflower
Onions	T. matoccs	Beans
		Lady's Finger

Gourds of all types

● **MAIZE** a quick growing and useful cereal, can be easily grown in town gardens. Plant early maize

AMOUNT OF SEED REQUIRED PER 1000 SQ. FEET

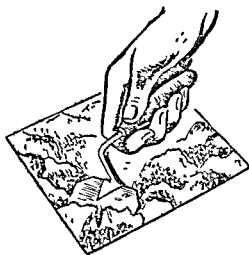
Beans	1 1/4 lbs	Turnips	14 ounces
Peas	1 lb	Lady's Finger	3 ounces
Radish	3 ounces	Tomatoes	1 1/4 ounces
Potatoes	1 1/2 lbs	Cabbage	1 1/4 ounces
	Cauliflower		1 1/4 ounces

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2 Break up the soil and turn it over

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5 Prepare beds of convenient size



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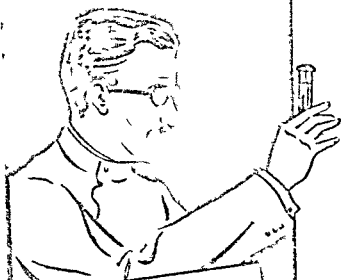
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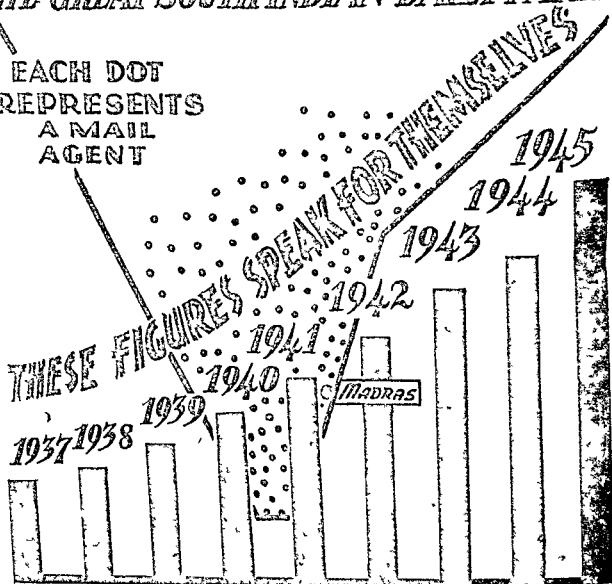


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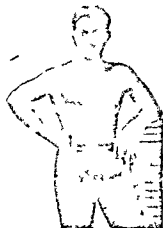
- 1 General Debility
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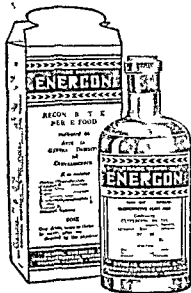


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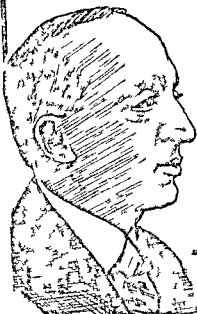
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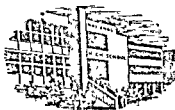
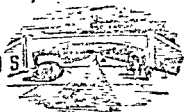
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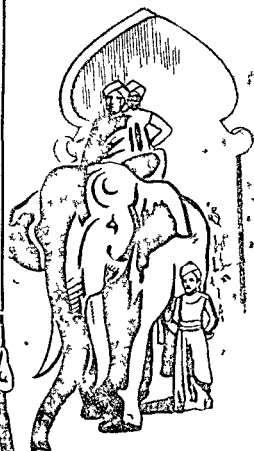
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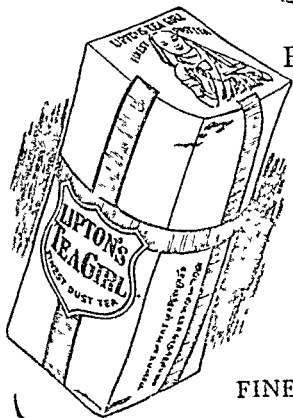
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BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

BY MR. DILIP KUMAR ROY

"BOOKS," he said "Books One reads so many and sees so few people and so little of the world Great thick books about the universe and the mind and ethics You have no idea how many there are I must have read twenty or thirty tons of them in the last five years. Weighted with that one is pushed out into the world *

I agree and disagree Only the reason for disagreement would here be relevant

Those who have made love to the world at one remove through books have much to gain when they turn subsequently to the direct courtship For then when they contact it they often know it better so much so that even falling headlong in love, in real life, becomes more convincing than in the antecedent world of imagination You know the world of fact better for having known it less perfectly through books before At any rate that was my reaction to the "people" and the world when I was pushed out into it, in Europe, in 1922, at two and twenty

I saw in fancy then the savages, our ancestors who had never imagined the wisdom their descendants would acquire through book lore

But does that prove that we are really wiser than they? Or is there something after all in the wisdom that books give, a wisdom which overawed Job, the rebel, who, even while blaspheming, said "Oh that my words were now printed in a book! †

Whatever the verdict of wise men on this moot question, it cannot be gainsaid that it was books which first gave the uttered word a new significance Fancy a gramophone record or a talkie film of to day being suddenly sprung upon our grandchildren a century hence Won't they smile at their foolish ancestors? But a poem of Sri Aurobindo or the sayings of Sri Ramkrishna they will continue to study with an equal or probably a greater ravishment than ours

And why? Obviously because somehow life often wins to a new significance through books in a way no other human mechanism can Of course there are books and books as there are poets and poets And history testifies that whenever a real book is produced it takes on a new kind of accent which gives to perishable words a strange posthumous longevity We have no clue to the secret of this miracle We only feel we know the art when we see it or shall we say the fire which makes pallid words break to iridescence Not for nothing did Johnson say of Goldsmith that 'no man was more foolish when he had not a pen in his hand or more wise when he had' *

Few book lovers will demur at this For most bibliophiles must have felt that recorded words can, on occasion, burn their dusks with almost a power of flame. That is why it is so difficult to assess the influence books wield on a man who thirsts for new heights of glory or gropes for strange avenues to joy Difficult

* 'Crime Yellow' a novel title by Alous Huxley
† 'The Book of Job' Chapter 1 The Old Testament

* Boswell's "Life of Johnson"

because books talk in a tongue not quite human, with a resonance that sounds sometimes too ethereal to be 'human nature's daily food'. So when my friend Sri Natesan had first requested me to write for him an essay on the books that have influenced me I hesitated as it was a title where auto biography would have to take a hand if it was to be vivid and readable at all. But he insisted and I had to yield. What persuaded me was this reminder that I have gained much in my life by others' glowing account of books. Did I not read 'Plutarch's Lives' because Rolland was in the stories about it, A. E.'s poem because Sri Aurobindo had given them very high praise. Sri Aurobindo's 'Essays on the Gita' because Krishnaprem (alias Ronald Nixon) panegyricised it—there are so many instances too numerous to mention. The moral ego centric though we are, we can profit by comparing notes about influences that have militated against our native ignorance and egotism and one of the most potent of these is certainly the voice of books. So I decided to comply resigned to this sad prescience that I should never lay my finger on what precisely seeped into me through the books that have helped me incalculably in my life's quest after the Elusive.

The book which exercised the most powerful influence on my early life and has remained to this day a thing of abiding inspiration might surprise a good many moderns. For it is certainly not 'Das Capital' of Karl Marx or the works of Lenin or the downright statements about the nature and aim of life by the Parnassians of to day, the men of science and fathers of the atomic bomb. What first swept me off my feet, was simply the record of some homely talks of a man who had never read a book. It is entitled, in Bengali, 'Ramkrishna Kathamrita'.* This may

perhaps sound like a paradox, to preface my halleluja to books with a personality who can hardly be regarded as a literate. But it isn't a paradox really. For suppose Sri Mahendra (the Boswell of Sri Ramkrishna) had never kept a meticulous record of his Master's talks, what a loss it would have been to the great big world, notwithstanding its latest prophets who say that religion is the opium of mind! But the opium of Sri Ramkrishna was divine, to the likes of us at all events. And it is curious that in the Gospel this identical analogy is dangled in the very first volume. Sri Mahendra repairs to Dakshineswar again to see this God intoxicated Nondescript who laughs out on seeing him and says to Vivekananda and others who were drinking in his nectarous words. Look you! Somebody had once administered a dose of opium to a peacock at 4 P.M. Next day, there the peacock materialised precisely at four! (Laughter)

I have dwelt on this at some length because it is the best rejoinder to those robust moderns who are keen on travelling by the last bus (to quote a simile of Aldous Huxley) and the bus to day happens to be that of mass murder supplied plentifully with drinks of blood distilled by scientific humanity. Fortunately for humanity, Sri Ramkrishna, the most ubiquitous force for spirituality in our age, never knew nor cared that there was such a thing as science and whenever Doctor Mahendra Sarcar went into ecstasies over the achievements of science he only smiled as a wise father smiled to a child entranced with a walking doll or a capering monkey. Sri Ramkrishna in his lifetime prevented tens of thousands from becoming converts to aggressive Christianity and cultured Nihilism, but his great personality achieved an even greater posthumous force through the instrumentality of this brightest biography ever penned by man. Some eminent critics have given Boswell's Life of Johnson this summit title, but then they never read the Gospel of Sri Ramkrishna. I do not

* Translated into English under the title 'the Gospel of Sri Ramkrishna' by Swami Nikhilananda, with a Foreword by Aldous Huxley. Of course it cannot possibly retain the pristine simplicity and atmosphere of the original, yet the translation has been acclaimed by thousands in the West, and rightly, as a real Gospel of wisdom and strength.

deny the greatness of Boswell as a biographer and certainly he has written a biography for all times which few men will have found unprofitable. But to compare his memoirs to those of Sri Mahendra is to compare a painted cascade to the Niagara.

The book that gripped me next was Nivedita's "My Master as I saw him" (which Subhash could not refer to without a catch in his voice). I was moved no less though I could not agree that it was a rival to "Kathamrita". For though Nivedita was without doubt a personality of a strange grandeur (to me she was an embodiment of storms passion restrained in a flower—a being of devotion whose power of self-effacement seemed almost unearthly) yet she could hardly emulate for obvious reasons the inimitable intimacy of Sri Mahendra's style.

But she gave us a deep compensation—she conveyed the feel of her myriad-mooded Master with a power of word-portraiture which no biographer of Vivekananda has equalled since. She entered into the solitary's trackless heart with the passport of her imperious devotion which makes her book compelling as only a romance built of the stuff of reality can be. For what she achieved will remain one of the purest romances ever written in any language and yet a vivid document of love between a born dreamer of the West and a deathless dream-builder of the East.

I would rejoice to talk of our great epics the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. But I have thought better of it. For one cannot talk of what fashions atom by atom the nucleus that is the religious soul. One only feels the tradition in one's blood but hardly analyses it. It has of late become a sign of virile progressiveness and deep wisdom to deride the past and withal appreciate one's culture. Jawaharlal's Autobiography, one of the most moving books I have ever read, has unfortunately thrown in its important weight of approval on the side of this superficial trend. But

I wonder whether this great son of India has ever wondered for a change what would have supplied the bedrock basis of Indian culture without the tradition of values created by our epics and scriptures? Civilization of a sort may be possible without the background of a hoary tradition, but the finest flower of civilization which is the culture of a race could never blossom for all time without a life-renewing tradition. The Mahabharata and the Ramayana have given us, Indians, that astonishing unity of culture of which Jawaharlal is so rightly proud. But deny this past and India will become a parvenu, a second Balkan continent with no message for the world of heart-aches.

Two writers first initiated me as a boy into this romantic adoration of the past: Bankim Chandra Chatterji and my own father, Dwijendralal Roy. The former's masterly analysis of Krishna and the latter's historical and mythological dramas made me feel proud as a peacock of our gorgeous aristocracy and gleaming tradition. Bankim Chandra's subtle justification of the bewildering contradictions of the strange and yet irresistible manoeuvrer Krishna planted fairly early in me the seeds of worship of that supreme and perhaps the most baffling of Avatars. But Bankim explained too much and, to prove more convincing still, he wrote a novel (one of his weakest) *Devi Choudhurani*. It was essentially a long apologue with a moral that for humanity a many-mooded human personality was life's summit ideal as exemplified by the historical apocalypse that was Krishna. The two together, however, made an indelible impression on my juvenile mind. Then came, in my adolescence, his two unforgettable novels whose influence I struggled so hard to slough off in subsequent life. The first of these was *Ananda Math* which preached patriotism and the second was *Bishabriksha* which gave me my first thrill and fear of sex conveyed through its marvellous plot-weaving. This deepened into rapture under the aegis of his most powerful novel, *Krishnakauter Will* painted with all the seduction of illicit love. In Bharatchandra's

it is a real book almost incandescent with the life fire of the leonine Yogi. Years later I read his famous "Inspired Talks" transcribed by Miss Waldo, an American lady. But I cannot say that the conversations recorded here gave me that alchemic touch which alone can leaven the hidden parts of our intractable being. Miss Waldo could not possibly have approached the great figure whose talks she registered with the love of a Sarat Chakravarti or Nivedita let alone the nonpareil Sri Mahendra.

I am afraid I must ignore such delightful books as David Copperfield, Ivanhoe, Vanity Fair, Sherlock Holmes and a host of others—I was an avid reader and grabbed every kind of meat tough or sweet—because though I must confess to having derived an ephemeral pleasure from just satisfying my appetite with whatever invited my palate I cannot help but regret that I knew no better then. The time I wasted on these I could have utilised in learning Sanscrit better than I did and even learn Greek to read Plato in the original. For I was fascinated early by the entrancing figure of Socrates who shone out so bewitchingly even through English translations of the Greek philosopher. But it was the romance of the guru and disciple relationship that held me entranced specially in the Dialogues. And it worked like magic in that it replenished my faith in values which the moderns in those days ridiculed as outmoded. The result was the pernicious doctrine of 'art for art's sake' fell off my mind like a coloured slough. When I turned once more to the Gospel of Sri Ramkrishna after this emancipation I felt it had in the meanwhile gained an added force. It sustained me—almost worked an amulet. I began to read it even more searchingly specially when the dangers of London, Paris and Berlin life beckoned to me too seductively. And it helped. There were three other great books that gave me help of this kind. 'What is Art' by Tolstoy, 'Memoirs of a Revolutionist' by Prince Kropotkin and 'John Christopher' by

Romain Rolland.* I must confess regret fully that I have been forced to disown Tolstoy in my later thirties. Rolland and Russell helped me in this orientation till I realised little by little that the Russian Count though a great artist was a bad philosopher. But for Kropotkin and Rolland my admiration has if anything increased in dimensions. The former filled me with enthusiasm for socialism, the latter for internationalism and human brotherhood as against that cancer of our civilization parochial patriotism. These have certainly been two of the most abiding influences in my life though I must add that by socialism I do not imply communism in practice which repelled me more and more by its religion of hatred and intolerance and love of dogmatic slogans (like the dictatorship of the proletariat). Rolland—and afterwards Aldous Huxley—showed clearly that even when the masses had to be emancipated the only ones who could give the lead were men of an exceptional intelligence and imagination like Prince Kropotkin or Tolstoy, or Lenin.

Just as these two books made me see European culture in a new light even so the books of Bertrand Russell made me see from a new angle the value of the creative spirit of man as against the possessive. Among these—for I avidly read all his books except Principia Mathematica—the ones which made the profoundest impression on me in England were Principles of Social Reconstruction, Roads to Freedom, Practice and theory of Bolshevism and Mysticism and Logic. Later I learned much from his Prospects of an Industrial Civilization, Power and Sceptical Essays. I could never have conceived as deep and lasting a reverence for the seething vigour of thought in Europe had it not been for her three

* I leave out Dostoevski's Brothers Karamazov because though it is surely one of the most powerful novels ever written by a visionary, yet he breathes generally a morbid aftertaste in the mouth. A morbid art though it thrills, it also has to be paid for heavily.

great sons of strength Kropothin, Rolland and Russell I don't add the name of Aldous Huxley here as I started reading his books only after my return to India. Besides, when I was in Europe (during my first visit that is 1919-1922) his deeper books were yet to come, like "Those Barren Leaves" (1925) two or three Graces (1926) Proper Studies (1927), Do what you will (1929), Music at night (1931) Brave new World" (1932) etc.—till came, after his incredible spiritual conversion his three greatest works so far "Ends and Means" "After many a summer" and "Grey Eminence"

It is fitting that Russell should have served as a sort of leading note to the more satisfying tone, Huxley. For do what I would I simply could not shake off a sense of futility in the reckless nobility of despair in Russell's fascinating scientific materialism with a high platform indeed for art and love and brotherhood, but when all is said there is something in each of us which must refuse to be propitiated with things that yield no lasting satisfaction. If this something were denied in the name of *importe* *plus* science or Art or Democracy or Society of Mutual Aid, it could only help like cutting the roots away and watering the top to quote a Bengali saying for then the personality which one nurses so fondly, spoon feeding with education and dogma and communal creeds of the moment, must wilt like the root divorced plant. This would be apparent to anyone who would read H. G. Wells's final testament "Mind at the End of its Tether." Brave is its message but not of a brave new world it's the message of a Nihil, a nameless zero. Man is finished, the brief sput of life made up of laughter and tears, joy and pain flame and ash is coming to an end thanks to the scheme of some cryptic Adversary who is more incredible than poor God himself! Many critics of the West have dubbed this defeatism. But to me it seemed the only logical culmination of a life of futile philosophising approved of

our good science, which, to quote Whitehead, is so wise as to inspect Life with consciousness only to come to the conclusion that the instrument of inspection is non-existent. None can hope to build a real edifice of Life on the quicksands of meaninglessness. And lastly, can it sound really convincing when one merely talks rhetorically of a courageous appraisal of Life's hollow of sleep alternating with a purposeless restlessness just for a brief spell or pathetically in lachrymose verse

'La vie est vaine,
Un peu d'amour,
Un peu de haine,
Et puis bonjour!'

Our life is a futile play
A little of love's delight,
A little of hate—till they
All end, and then good night!

For if such were the real character of this quixotic life of brief spasm and swoon then what on earth could be a wiser Commandment than Verily I say unto you, that the wisest man travels light, eating, drinking and being merry, jettisoning morality, only taking just enough care to circumvent the policeman round the corner"—which is, by the way, what millions so brilliantly achieve and presumably will go on doing till the final Crash. To call life a meaningless interlude of whatever it is (since even consciousness is not admitted by science) and then to hope for a basis of values is to expect fruit from burnt seeds. It is the babble of Bedlam.

Fortunately, real thinkers everywhere are waking up at long last from this grotesque nightmare of rational lunacy, as Gerald Heard, the brilliant Yogic thinker has so ably pointed out with a sigh of relief in his fine criticism of Science, "This Surprising world" and then in his two strong "Vegetes" Code of Christ and Creed of Christ. It is an equally good sign that a consummate artist like Somerset Maugham should start now to utilise his great art to subserve the eternal values in books like "Summing Up" and the Razor's Edge" and that an ultra-modern like Aldous

Huxley should declare in his "Ends and Means" about the ideals of this Godless age 'Among the bewildering multiplicity of ideals which shall we choose! The answer is we shall choose none'

This is of good augury because these three writers are front rank intellectuals of Europe though the most interesting of the trio is unquestionably the erstwhile sceptic Aldous Huxley. And his testimony is even more interesting to us because of his progressive veering round in favour of the spiritual view of life. His *Eveless in Gaza* first revealed the terrible disillusionment of the world be seer at the parting of the ways, for after that he definitely parted company with his old comrades who were content to pick what wisdom they could out of the dregs of science and cynicism. But I cannot honestly say that this book ever actually influenced me. It struck me as significant, that was all. What filled me with admiration was his introduction to 'Letters of D. H. Lawrence'. Somehow hitherto Lawrence had never made any very deep impression on me. It was Huxley's preface on his fiery guru that first made me take him more seriously and since then I have read all the books of this impressive paranoiac. In the process I was partly converted because I felt that there was a pronounced streak of the Yogi in him. This found its best expression in his remarkable book 'Fantasia of the Unconscious' which no Indian interested in the heart's authentic vision can afford to miss. For it exposes the root of the malady of our present civilization which wants to build a life without a correct appraisement of its spiritual plinth inevitably, since without a correct initial vision of the primary aims of existence there can be no subsequent formulation of its correct values. For, as Lawrence too says in his "Fantasia" and justly "Men live and see according to some gradually developing and gradually withering vision. Then it is unfolded into life and art. Our vision, our belief,

our metaphysic is wearing woefully thin, and the art is wearing absolutely threadbare." Therefore he rightly concludes, "We've got to rip the old veil of a vision across and find what the heart really believes in after all."

I had a dim perception, ever since I had learnt to depend on the vision of Sri Ramkrishna, that only those masterpieces which aided us in acquiring this vision could be styled real and authentic. This vision having now grown clearer I have known better than to extol books dealing with ephemera however dignified by the name of Art with a capital A. I mention Lawrence not to go into ecstasies over his idolatry of sex as the profoundest worship of life—for surely this view could only derive from some aberration of his intellect the reason of which is far too complicated to go into in this brief survey. But if the greatness of a man is the greatness of his greatest moments, the greatness of the world of books would be the greatness of its starriest wisdom. Thus one may safely award that the most potent inspiration of Lawrence is conveyed through his magnificent "Letters". For though he wrote these to different people from different strands of his consciousness and as such must be frequently disappointing, yet while reading them one is so often overwhelmed by a marvellous vision clearly breaking through that one becomes dimly conscious of what Huxley meant when he wrote in his illuminating preface 'Of most other eminent people I have met I feel that at any rate I belong to the same species as they do, but this man is something different and superior in kind, not degree'. And yet this tortured prophet actually preached the Gospel of capitulation to sex which burst out explosively in his *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. 'I think', wrote Sri Aurobindo to me, "Lawrence was held back from realising because he was seeking for the new birth in the subconscious vital and taking that for the invisible within—he mistook Life for Spirit,

whereas Life can only be an expression of the Spirit. That too was perhaps the reason for his preoccupation with a vain and baffled sexuality." I have already referred to the inequalities in the man, the different strands of his consciousness. So the less said about this lamentable lapse the better.

To end now on one of the deepest melodies of this age of dim and blare. The singer was the Irish mystic George Russell alias A. E. who sought the Divine not for its gifts but for itself.

Some for Beauty follow long
Flying traces some there be
beck thee only for a song
I to lose myself in thee

And whose Yogic perception enabled him to feel

But I have touched the lips of clay
Mother thy rudest sod to me
Is thrilled with fire of hidden day
And haunted by all mystery

Which is reminiscent of Sri Aurobindo's

All music is only the sound of his laughter,
All beauty the sound of his passionate bliss
Our lives are his heart beats, our rapture
the bridal
Of Radha and Krishna, our love is their kiss

I do not suggest A. E. came anywhere near the depth and comprehensiveness of Sri Aurobindo whose poetry mounts "from harmony to heavenly harmony" but leads 'the diapason' not to close "full on Man" but on Divinity realised through complete union.

'He who I am was with me still,
All veils are breaking now
I have heard his voice and borne his will
On my vast untroubled brow'

I know very well that A. E. is not recognised by some highbrow critics in Europe as a pure poet. But I am unperturbed. For my object to day is not to write away as a critic but only to say how I have reacted to voices that

have moved the deepest chords of my heart. Pure poetry I delight in, for it is delightful, but somehow its 'flying traces' leave me fundamentally unsatisfied. What I seek from poetry is not mere esthetic ~~ness~~ I demand from it a guiding inspiration for evolving life. In other words, poetry if I am to accept its leading should help me ascend the uphill path to Divinity. A. E.'s poetry has given me just such an aid. What more do I need?

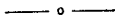
This must not be interpreted however as anything like an admission that I can accept that A. E. is not a great poet. Nor can I for a moment admit that as a poet he matters less than the musical Yeats or the mellifluous Swinburne. His songs as well as poetic personality seems to me too quintessential to be dismissed, specially when one feels that he presents the most austere of truths in a rhythm soft as sleep and withal strong as the starry vault. He is—to put it in our Vedic terminology—*sanātana* and *purnānava* primeval yet ever-new. And lastly, he is redolent not only of the ancient certitudes but of the aspirations of the modern man with his loveliest thrills, in song and sigh. The other day I wrote to Jawaharlal and while extolling his "Discovery of India" I vented a regret that even he should have equated mysticism to haziness and obscurantism. But the Reality of realities could hardly be this. On the contrary it is too heart-breakingly real to be dismissed as a chimera. Even omnipotent Science, I wrote, with all its growing power of outlawing God has utterly failed to outlaw this sigh of Man for the only Attainment that creates things of beauty and bliss out of the raw material of life. And I enclosed a poem of A. E.—The Outcast

Sometimes when alone
At the dark close of day
Men meet an outlawed Majesty
And hurry away
They come to the lighted house
They talk to their dear,
They crucify the mystery
With words of good cheer

* Quote from Sri Aurobindo's poem "A God a Labour

CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

BY PROF G L SRIVASTAVA, M.A. B Com



THE importance of the future development of co operative movement in India would appear highly significant if it is realized that our country at present is suffering from many social and economic evils which are the result of our present system of production and distribution. Whatever may be the future form of our country's political constitution, it is well recognised that the political and economic power of our country now must rest in the hands of our people. This task of transference of power into the people's hands is all the more facilitated by co operative institutions, for co operation is essentially democratic in principle.

The co operative movement has hitherto been a predominantly credit organisation designed to provide finance to the agriculturists. It is only recently that a greater emphasis is being given to non credit co operative activities as well. The outbreak of war particularly gave a fresh stimulus to the growth of agricultural and non agricultural co operative societies. There was a rapid increase in the number of Consumers' Co operative Societies specially in Madras, Bombay and Mysore, which creditably served as safeguards against profiteering and black market. Similarly war has also led to a further improvement in the position of credit societies, thrift societies, and artisans' co operative societies. According to *Indian Information*, Weavers societies in 1939-1940 supplied hand loomed fabrics worth Rs 9½ lacs and further supplied about one million blankets valued at over Rs 70 lacs. Here mention may be

made of the remarkable services rendered by the Triplicane Urban Co operative Society in Madras which successfully undertook the supply of foodstuffs to citizens and maintained prices at a reasonable level at a time when food was scarce and there was a complete monopoly of customers for some time.

Thus in view of the success achieved during the war, it may be remarked that the importance of co operation as the basis for post war reconstruction is indeed very great.

At the outset, in view of the critical food situation in India it may be suggested that, in order to speed up the work of "Grow More Food Campaign", rural reconstruction work should be taken up on co operative basis. A proper organised system of agricultural credit should be developed. Co operative institutions should be used for the distribution of food grains and other essential supplies like sugar and kerosine. Efforts should be made to establish a chain of co operative marketing organisations.

Secondly the co operative departments should take immediate steps to organise the various cottage industries which have been producing goods needed for the prosecution of war, specially hand woven goods. This can be done by the formation of Industrial Co operative societies in rural and urban areas. Further, services of permanent technical experts, improved type of machines and cheap and good quality of raw materials should also be made available to such societies.

Marketing of produce has been justly described as the 'Soul of Agricultural'

Co-operation The establishment of co operative agricultural marketing societies at important trade centres will no doubt be a step in the right direction. All the village societies of a particular trade centre should seek affiliation with their respective marketing society. These marketing societies may be linked with their regional federated marketing associations which in their turn may work with the collaboration of Provincial Marketing Organisations and an All India Marketing Organisation at the top.

The organisation of co operative marketing must be based on some systematic plan which should undertake activities like the establishment of regulated markets, dissemination of commercial and market information, licensing of traders, provision of storage facilities for food grains and the increased use of refrigeration and cold storage methods and dehydration process. The co operative sale societies will be in a better position to educate the cultivator in the art of production and marketing of produce, to provide produce in bulk for efficient grading and standardisation and to bring the producer into direct touch with the consumers in the country and with the export market. Here legislation may also seem desirable to force the minority to join their village co operative Purchase and Sale Association.

The need of a wide spread consumers' co operative movement may not have been felt in our country on account of the predominance of men being engaged in agriculture, but now in the light of the success achieved in the last few years it is sure to be realized—particularly at a time when our country stands on the

threshold of her industrial advancement. It is high time that the consumers should organise themselves lest they might have to be exploited by middlemen. In this connection the recommendations made by the Joint Session of the Standing Committee of the All India Co operative Institutes' Association and the Indian Provincial Co operative Banks' Association are worth considering. It recommended that both in rural and urban areas full efforts should be made to place the movement on a permanent basis by increasing the owned capital, extending the range of the articles to be supplied, arranging for the joint purchase of supplies from wholesale or marketing societies, organising the local production of the consumers' goods, providing special arrangements for concurrent audit and lastly building up close relation with members. It further recommended that in achieving these objects, a central wholesale society can in some cases play an important part and such wholesale society may, therefore, be organised wherever necessary.

Another remarkable instance of co operative activity is the work of co operative Consolidation of Holdings Societies. In this connection in order to prevent fragmentation of holdings the rules of succession and sub division of estates need revision and careful consideration. The introduction of compulsory legislation is necessary in this direction. The Act should compel the minority right holders to join hands with majority ones if the latter decide to combine in a scheme of consolidation. Reference may also be made of irrigation societies which offer a promising future for the

supply of water to dry tracts where canal irrigation is impracticable. The work of distribution of water can also be taken over by such societies.

The development of cattle insurance societies is another fruitful line of business. The work of co operative insurance should be so extended as to cover the risks brought about by flood famines, cattle diseases hail storm and epidemics etc. Insurance not only of cattle but also of crops is also thought feasible. At the same time efforts can also be made to improve the quality of cattle and to spread the principles of animal husbandry among the agriculturists.

Among the lines of co operative development for the benefit of urban people, Co operative Housing occupies a prominent place. The societies can be expected to tackle the problem of slums in the factory towns through construction of new model towns and colonies and to provide decent housing accommodation in villages. There is a great scope for milk and dairy societies for the supply of pure milk at moderate rates specially to urban consumers and for the collection of milk from rural areas its processing into milk products and their sale. A word may also be said regarding Rural Credit Societies and the Urban Banks started in India. As regards Urban banks greater efforts should be directed towards the encouragement of thrift and savings among the members and towards the financing of small industrialists and artisans. In case of Primary agricultural credit societies loans should be granted as far as possible for productive purposes only and it is further advisable that the same

may be given in the form of implements seed and manure etc.

One of the reasons of the failure of co operative movement in India lies in the fact that its sphere has been restricted to the solution of credit problem only. For a country like India, a comprehensive plan of all round co operative development is needed. It is also however necessary that all the different forms of co operative activities must be linked together so as to establish close relations between all kinds of such societies. For example the credit society should grant loans to members on condition that they will sell their produce through their marketing societies only. In this way marketing societies can go a long way to link production with consumption.

One important feature which distinguishes the co operative movement in the West is the active association of women with the affairs of the societies. It is only in few provinces like Bombay Travancore State and Bengal that some signs of organised efforts on the part of women are visible. The active co operation of women in the sphere of adult education thrift societies rural welfare and domestic industries is indeed highly desirable.

The objection to state control and initiative is based on the ground that Government supervision lacks sympathy and enthusiasm. Officers having no personal interest in the movement carry on their duties in a mechanical way caring little for the consequences. Therefore in order to make the movement progressive a larger section of the people should be educated to take up the work of initiation and organisation. To achieve this end in view, definite steps

should be taken for the promotion of both co operative and general education to turn out efficient supervisors, secretaries, inspectors and other trained and certified personnel. But, at any rate, it must not be forgotten that unless an organisation becomes sufficiently strong and fully organised, some form of state control and supervision will necessarily be required to protect the interests of the members and the movement at large.

And lastly, to ensure continued and unhampered progress of the movement it

is of the greatest importance that there should be close co operation and collaboration of activities between the co operative department and the various other departments of the Government like Agriculture, Marketing and Veterinary.

In the end, it may be remarked that the co operative movement in India has a bright future before it and it may be expected to yield beneficial results provided earnest and deliberate endeavours are made to work it on sound lines

THE FILM IN EDUCATION

By MR SHEIKH IFTEKHAR RASOOL

WITH a few exceptions teachers in this country seem to look with some distaste and suspicion upon the proposal to use films as an aid to their work. Yet the idea is not new and its birth was almost coincident with that of the cinema itself. It is evidently not necessary to go into details what other countries have done, but it may be of interest to know the great success achieved in this field with the result that they have now made teachers aware of the immense possibilities of the new instrument.

We cannot deny that in the short space of one generation the cinema has established itself as, perhaps, the most potent single influence in our civilisation. The multiplication of palatial theatres—and their attendant queues of 'fans'—testify to its attractiveness of all sections of the people. Furthermore, the use of visual aids is recommended by all who put forward demands for fundamental changes in conversational methods and curricula.

In fact, practically the only factor common to all the newer schemes is their protest against the overwhelming linguistic bias of our education. A mere knowledge of words and a superficial acquaintance with concepts acquired at second hand are commended as harmful and useless. What is asked for is the cultivation of an interest in real things, an understanding of the connections between them, a concentration on what can be seen and perceived at first hand.

VALUE OF FILMS SHOWN *

Films offer one of the easiest ways of conveying to the child some knowledge of a world wider than the home or the school. An information is presented to him by pictures, satisfying and easy to understand, rather than by comparatively abstract words the full meaning of which is often beyond him. Their receptiveness and their power of association are being trained, and this training is possibly not the least of the services which the new medium may tender—if the material is right.

It is as important to train their taste in films as in music, from the social point of view it is more important. We cannot provide our children with a better equipment than a strong dislike of the inferior and the common place event in this sphere. The taste of the next generation is largely formed at school. Therefore the school cannot afford to neglect so important a factor as the film in the education of a generation which goes regularly to the cinema.

The term 'educational film' is often loosely used to denote many things. It may be used in a restricted sense for the teaching film, the film in school serving as an aid to the teacher, or in a much wider sense for the generally educative or interest film to be shown to larger audiences of children, adolescents or adults. But it is in the public cinema that the film has its strongest hold on national interest and therefore its greatest cultural and social influence, notably on children and adolescents.

COMPLEXITY OF TEXT BOOKS

If the film is to provide an effective contact between the school and life, the classroom and the factory, the laboratory and industry, then first class production and first class projection must be available for the schools. A film conscious child has a high standard of criticism based on the performance of the public cinema. The school cinema must be able to stand comparison at his hands. In a system of national education which no longer relies wholly on the printed word, the film becomes an essential instrument in the child's preparation for life.

At the same time we must make clear our views that the basis, both of instruction in the narrow sense and of education in the widest sense, lies in personal relations between child and child, and child and teacher, and collectively between children and teachers. That is fundamental and self-evident. No mechanical aid can be a substitute for human relations and no artifice can replace the interplay of personality. Just as the variety and complexity of modern text books makes greater demands on the teacher's judgment, so the use of film will call for more and not less experience and decision.

It is also well to keep in mind two aspects of film education in connection with the schools. The one is the use of the ordinary public cinema for the exhibition of films of educational and artistic value to audience of children drawn from the schools, the other is the use of the film in the classroom. Each of these has its own particular aim: that of the former is the raising of popular taste; that of the latter the improvement of classroom facilities for specific education.

EDUCATING FILM TASTE

The cinema already claims the patronage of a very high proportion of the urban child population. It is generally agreed that many of the films our children see, especially in the cheaper cinemas in areas where poverty prevails, are not calculated to develop the artistic taste of the child, nor are the pictures which emphasise disproportionately the extravagant, sensational and emotional aspects of life as lived by minorities, calculated to give the child a sane and reasonable view of life.

One of the national problems of the moment is, therefore this How are we to build up a discriminating public taste for films? The most sensible way is by education rather than prohibition and education is most perfect and profitable when it begins with the young The classroom is not the place where education in film taste is likely as yet to be very useful However much we may regret it the school is something largely apart from the world of men and affairs

The sinister walls and the locked gates, still characteristic of many schools indicate even if they do not develop, an attitude of exclusiveness as well as of compulsion The factors which control work and conduct in school are still very largely artificial because they are arbitrarily imposed by the conditions of compulsory attendance, mass methods of discipline and instruction Most children leaving school for the first time throw, literally, their school books into a corner with a sigh of relief and a determination to have done with all that they, and the conditions which they imply, connote for them

THE ORDINARY CINEMA

This attitude is likely to be developed towards films shown under classroom conditions The child will regard the subject of such films as definitely a part of an experience forced upon him with the rest of school conditions, and though he may welcome them at school as by contrast bright and interesting interludes, he will turn from them nevertheless, as he turns from the books and the regulations which the school imposes upon the ordering of his affairs and upon the conduct of his life

Unless we accept the popular 'wait-and-see' view, that the development of public taste in films is immaterial or impossible of attainment by an attack at the school age, we should surely be acting wisely by making proper provision for visits to the cinema by children We find there are really two needs to be met We have to educate the taste of the rising generation and we have to make available for our children, as far as we can, the unique opportunities for education which the film affords

There are many schools where the local film societies can be formed with excellent results In these societies, you could exchange opinions about the films you have seen, organise special visits to local cinemas to see films of particular merit, perhaps even try to make a film of your own We look forward to the time when such societies in India have gathered strength and are producing films which are an unequivocal expression of Indian life and thought, and deriving character and inspiration from our national inheritance

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial and industrial and economic condition of India Short articles on topical subjects are preferred Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr G. A. Natesan Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

THE FUTURE OF TEXTILES IN INDIA

By MR R RAMA IYER

THE Government of India in all their industrial planning have repeatedly stressed their ultimate aim as raising the standard of living of the masses, otherwise it would mean higher real returns for the cultivator and a raised minimum real wages for the industrial worker. Textiles being the biggest industry in the land, next to agriculture, has an important role in the future welfare of the nation. During the war period Indian Textile Industry gained an impetus due to the impediments to imports and the unusual demand from the Middle East. In spite of the inadequate yarn supply and the scarcity of auxiliary materials the industry has made a progress is definitely the change to a new phase. Since 1939, the Hand loom industry has steadily been contributing about 1700 million yards of cloth, and the Mill industry about 4250 million yards of cloth and the latter rose up to 4850 million yards for 1944.

Now the Post war Planning Committee (Textiles) has proposed a target figure production of 7200 million yards for the Mill industry, and 2000 million yards for the hand loom, with an additional equipment of 2.75 million spindles and 40,000 looms, and this to be achieved within a period of five years. As the existing machineries have been over worked beyond normal capacity during war years, the Committee has proposed replacement of about 10 million spindles and 200,000 looms over a period of ten years. As a matter of fact, replacement is more an urgent need than expansion. The mill owners fear whether the equivalent purchasing power of the mass would simultaneously increase to consume the

rising production so that the pre war trade depression could be avoided. Apart from this, a formidable competition from U.S.A. and U.K. can be very much apprehended. Intensive researches in these countries during the war period have led their textile industries to hopes of successful competition in the Eastern markets. Rayon and synthetic fibres especially are said to have obtained advantageous qualities which natural fibres, like cotton do not and cannot possess. And at the same time, we notice a downward trend in rayon price, in spite of the luxury duty on it in England yet in force.

U.S. cotton consumption in the pre war years was about six million bales per annum, and since the commencement of the war it rose to about eleven million bales. But a considerable part of the U.S. peak production went to meet the war demands. Since the close of the war U.S. economic authorities propose to maintain a steady export market for their surplus production in order to keep "full employment" and their economic integrity at home. In addition, the blocked up Sterling Balances of Britain (said) would be liquidated by consumer goods for India. In the future world cotton market it is feared, rayon and synthetics may displace a significant portion of cotton trade. In that case, we find the possibility of the British Rayon manufacturers' ambitious materialising. In pre war days Britain depended, for raw material for her rayon industry, on Empire pulp—Canada and Newfoundland. Now as a result of the war, she has the entire pulp resources of Scandinavia, Denmark etc., at her disposal. All these facts put together,

with the U S proposal for 'Harmonising International Trade and Employment', rather depict a grim future for our textile industry

Mere planning of Central and Provincial schemes cannot mitigate the apprehensions of the industry, nor effectively raise the standard of living of the Indian masses for we cannot expect a full hearted State protection to the industry from an alien Government as long as it has to yield to the wishes of the commercial community of Britain. At the present juncture what we need is a master plan with short range programmes for building up the economic solidarity of the industry as well as the country

To increase and maintain a reasonable purchasing power of the mass is of course directly dependant on the increased efficiency or out put per man hour. The problem is how we can increase our efficiency, and lower our cost of production, approachable to those of U S A and U K. Combines or cartels of the Western type are unsuitable to our industrial atmosphere. So far as labour force is concerned, Asiatic labour is said to be the cheapest, and especially Indian labour is, in addition, very meek and philosophical in outlook, unlike the British labour which demands its rights "pay as you earn more". In spite of the very high standard of living of the American labour, U S A is able to produce quality goods at competitive prices. Their secret lies probably in their rational methods of production, training and organisation. On any grounds the Indian labourer cannot be behind the Western, provided he has the same kind and amount of training, favourable working conditions

and a reasonable adequate minimum standard of living. Accustomed to severe hardships and endurance, the Indian worker may most probably, show a better efficiency than the Western

Efficiency in man is not an inherent nature. Out put per man hour can be increased if the human element is given a secondary responsibility to the machine in production. This does not mean a wholesale conversion to automatic means. What is wanted is a cautious analysis of the present systems of production and organisation, followed by adoption of improvements and national methods wherever possible, without in anyway precipitating a serious unemployment situation. Secondly, specialisation on the part of the organisation is preferable to enforcement of specialisation on the individual. The present monotony in factories has already stunned the creative instinct of the individual which has caused him serious degeneration.

Western countries being aware of the importance of the human element in production, have mobilised their energy to keep the worker in full spirit and enthusiasm, the labourer feels at home in the factories and considers the job a pleasant hobby. It is learnt that in one dairy factory in Tennessee, the wall opposite the machines was bearing the picture of a rich meadow—landscape with cows grazing lazily by a river bank, in a beautiful summer afternoon. Some American mills have provided music while working, realising its rhythmic effect on the mind and ultimately the work turned out.

The working conditions and the environments have both physiological and psychological effects on the human elements

Low ceilings, host of pillars and partition walls, crowded shafts and belts, poor upkeep and haphazardous arrangements of machineries, inadequately ventilated improperly lighted and dusty rooms seriously depress the mind of the individual and his sub conscience is prone to take it for a life inside a prison. These lead to dejection and lack of interest in life, and ultimately effect a low efficiency and poor labour relations. A worker, working at a black machine when he casts his eyes from the machine on a white wall feels mental confusion which being repeated hundred times a day will, no doubt cause eye strain, perhaps headache with some and a general loss of physical energy. We have a lot to improve by way of suitable working conditions and environments.

In the modern world research is the life blood of industry without which progress is impossible. Side by side with basic research by universities and research boards, we should pay more heed to the applied research based on the day to day troubles shooting in factories. For this, both the Government and the industries should co operate. Big firms can afford to have their own research institutions besides common local and central institutions as in the West.

Regarding training of the personnel in textile industry a major portion of our labour force remains illiterate and what little they have acquired as technical training is what they learnt while as sweepers, or by doing their job mechanically. Young men leave their schools or colleges either in the middle or at the end of their student careers just to meet immediate demands of

subsistence. There is a gulf of difference between the university and the factory. The youth in his last year in the school considers himself an individual who is an integral part of a social organisation, with high hopes and rosy thoughts of life. The treatment meted out to him when he enters the mill is of an unscientific and unsympathetic nature. His enthusiasm and spirit are all shattered and slowly he gets into dejection. To infuse knowledge with enthusiasm and stimulate the perspective capacity of the youth are the duty of the authority training the personnel. To be objective is an absolute essential when dealing with a human being.

Lastly, we shall consider about marketing. A steady demand and stabilised market with an adequate purchasing power of the mass can be effected only with the full co operation of the consumer. In modern trade consumer is more important than the producer and we know the maxim 'consumer is always in the right'. Standardisation of the quality of textile products is the immediate need if we want to consolidate the interests and contacts with the consumer. Indian short staple cotton which has lost its main market since the outbreak of the war should not be allowed to jeopardise the situation in the home textile market. Instead of standardising the price of our raw cotton or giving subsidies we can very well restrict the inflow of foreign cotton according to the feasibility of our markets. Stabilisation of the market is possible only with the better understanding with the consumer. Anyhow, a central organisation for market control, representing the interests of both the

consumer and producer could pave a way to the economic solidarity of the industry. Such an organisation can regulate the flow of goods according to the deficit regions without enforcing curtailment of production on any individual firm. It further guarantees the consumer to look after the interests of the latter as well as the former in addition the producer is secured a steady and stable market. The inevitable alien competition can be wiped out or at least faced courageously only with a consolidated programme between the producer and the consumer—both for the common welfare of the nation.

U.S. proposals for harmonising international trade cited. The attainment of approximately full employment by the major trading nations and its maintenance on a reasonably assured basis are essential to

the expansion of International trade, on which the full prosperity of these and other nations depends. 'Local taxes on imported products would be limited to rates not higher than those levied on like products produced at home.' This explicitly means a further joint exploitation on the worker nations by curbing the internal industries. After all India is Britain's 'domestic affair'. Only one thing is left to us 'to consolidate our consumer producer contacts and interests into an integral national unit so that we can face all the eventualities of alien competition, and secondly, to increase the purchasing power of the Indian mass we should increase our output efficiency, and such a close co-operation on the consumer basis of national consciousness alone can save our economy.'

PARAMOUNTCY IN INDIAN STATES

BY MR. RANBIR SINGH

THE origin and growth of Paramountcy affords an interesting subject of political science to follow. From comparatively unostentatious beginnings it has developed into an all powerful device in the hands of the British Government. It does not seem to be capable of any international analysis. The Indian States Inquiry Committee otherwise known as Butler Committee defines the paramount power as 'The Crown acting through the Secretary of State for India and the Governor General in Council who are responsible to the Parliament of Great Britain. In the words of Sir W. Barton 'Paramountcy is the outcome of Military Supremacy over the great

sub continent of India an inevitable corollary of a military protection'. The Crown is described as the paramount power because the States have agreed to cede to it certain important attributes of their sovereignty and paramountcy has become a useful word to describe the rights and obligations of the Crown which arise out of the agreed cession of those attributes of paramountcy. Sir W. Lee Warner has avoided the use of the word paramountcy as in his view paramountcy is not a constitutional channel through which rights and obligations could be created. He uses the word only to describe the relationship between the States and the Crown as it exists.

West Communications between East and West were thus opened by the Chinese. But the Chinese were not interested in art itself, and the journey of artistic ideas from the west to the east would have been long delayed had there not been the vehicle of Buddhism to transport it.

ART OF GANDHARA

The Kushans were the last power to occupy Gandhara at the beginning of the Christian era and their great king Kanishka, considered himself another Aśoka in his zeal for the spread of Buddhism. They gradually extended their rule till by the first century it reached from the middle of India on the south to Yarkand and a desert region of the east. The bridge between India and China was thus formed.

Having little art of their own, the Kushans adopted the art of Gandhara, that mixture of Greek, Indian and Persian arts. The date of the arrival of Buddhism in China is not known for the arrival of a new religion was not the sort of thing that found an entry in the old Chinese annals. It is however, maintained that it found its place sometime during the reign of the first Chinese Emperor, about 220 B.C.

So the Graeco-Buddhist art of Gandhara spread eastwards to the confines of China, but unfortunately there is no trace of Buddhist art before the end of the fourth century A.D. These traces consist of a few bronze statues of no great significance. Buddhist art in China begins a century later during the reign of North China of the Northern dynasty, a nomad race who conquered North China and later became enthusiastic converts to Buddhism.

With their conversion, they started excavating caves along the borders of the Taklamakan desert, and we find the first in China at Tunhuang, the place where the caravans from China started their journey across the desert. It is a pity that nothing remains of these earliest caves, but Tunhuang became a great Buddhist centre, and the numerous caves that still exist have yielded up vast stores of manuscripts in Chinese, Sanskrit and other languages, which bear marked influence of the art of Gandhara.

YUNKANG CAVES

From the writings of Fa-hsien, the first Chinese Buddhist pilgrim to India, we also learn that similar caves were excavated at Yunkang ten miles west of the capital. As in India, the caves have a central square pillar highly ornamented. Some of the figures carved are of enormous size, 30 to 40 feet in height, while the surrounding walls and ceilings are richly decorated.

The imitation wooden beams hewn out of the solid rock recall similar work in India. On either side of the door are the doorkeepers set to guard the shrine. These doorkeepers also can be traced back to an Indian origin, for they are representative of a religion older than Buddhism or even Hinduism, the old Animist religion still existing among certain aboriginal tribes in India.

Inside the caves the niches for the large Buddha images are surrounded with figures of Buddhist saints and flying devas, such as are met in Indian sculpture. In one cave are scenes from the life of Buddha, one of which has always captivated the imagination, the renunciation of home and

a life of ease, to go out into the world to seek enlightenment. The gods are seen holding up the hooves of their horses so as to muffle their tread.

It looks as if somebody who had seen the Indian carving had had something to do with the designing of those at Yun kang. Again the rich decoration of the ceiling and walls are reminiscent of those at Amravati while the carving of the lotus and the curious dwarf like supporting figures take us to the old sculptures at Bharut in Central India.

OTHER INDIAN MOTIFS

Many other Indian motifs are also to be found during this period such as the

'kirtimukha' mask, the palmette design common at Sanchi, guardian figures armed with the trident of Siva, the haloes of the Buddha or his followers covered with flames like the haloes of the Gupta period in India, the arches from Gandhara, both triangular and horseshoe.

Above all is found again and again the traditional figure of Buddha, seated as an Indian ascetic clothed in the Grecian mantle. The walls of the caves are crowded with images and inscriptions, many of the latter surviving on the hard rock of Lungmen. Such inscriptions indicate the spirit that inspired the making of the images.

THE MESSAGE OF SWAMI DAYANAND

BY MR B. BALASUBRAMANIA IYER

It is often believed that the zeal for religious and social reform in our country has been entirely due to the influence of English education and the impact of Western civilization. But the lives of Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Swami Ramakrishna Paramahansa are a standing refutation of this prevalent belief. Both were completely ignorant of English and foreign to the ideas inculcated through that language. Still they were the makers of the modern Hindu renaissance. So early, as the middle of the nineteenth century, Swami Dayanand strongly advocated many of those reforms which are now the sheet anchor of social and religious reformers of the present day, such as the removal of untouchability and caste distinctions, abolition of child marriage, the unification of Hindu society and the establishment of Hindu solidarity. The great

organization of which he was the founder—The Arya Samaj—is a live force to day among us working vigorously for the good of the Hindu community and defending Hinduism from the inroads of the two great proselytising religions, Christianity and Islam. Swami Dayanand, with rare insight, fully apprehended the grave dangers which threatened and still continue to threaten Hindu religion and culture and dedicated his great and saintly life to the task of organising Hindu society and repelling the attacks against the Hindu religion and averting the dangers to Hindu society. Generations of Hindus have to be profoundly grateful to him for this great task which he began so vigorously and which remains still to be accomplished successfully. It has been proved to the hilt by events that

ening now that orthodox

Hinduism committed an egregious blunder in treating as unredeemable outcastes all those who stayed away from its fold by conversion or otherwise through the proselytising activities of other religions and is not admitting into the Hindu communion the repentants and reconverting them. Medieval Hinduism erred in believing that there was no sanction in the Sastras for reconversion and assimilation. Swami Dayanand did an everlasting service to Hindu religion by his energetic attempt to nullify the effects of this great blunder. Whatever differences there may be as regards some of his views his name will be cherished by every believing Hindu for this noble service. We know the task is not easy even now and is beset with difficulties even danger to life as in the case of Swami Shraddhananda who became a martyr in that cause. Still it has to be done if Hindu religion and culture are to live and Swami Dayanand's life will be an everlasting source of inspiration for all the workers in that cause.

Hence we feel that Mr Hari Bilas Sarada* has done a great service by writing and publishing an authentic account of the life and achievements of the great Swami. To him it has been a labour of love and devotion. Otherwise few could think of attempting such a task at his ripe age of seventy-nine. He worked hard at it, for two years from 1943 to 1945. Mr Sarada's book is very interesting and inspiring reading. The Swami's great courage, strength, fearlessness, risking all dangers even to life in the cause of his sincere convictions and his stupendous energy are standing examples for all Hindu patriots and

public workers. It is noteworthy that the Swami carried on his discussions with Pandits and made his public speeches in Sanskrit of which he was a great master. It was only in his later life that he spoke in Hindi. It is curious that he never included South India in his itinerary.

Like Kumarila Bhatta of ancient days he rested all his conclusions on the sole authority of the Vedas. But his interpretation of the Veda was unique. He confined it only to the Samhita portion of it and will not accept the Brahmanas and Upanishads as revelations. In this he differed from Kumarila Bhatta, Sankara and other great Acharyas of the past in India. He based all his reforms upon his own interpretation of the Samhita portion of the Veda, which differed materially from the traditional commentary of Sayanacharya and others. In his philosophy he did not accept the Advaita and believed in the three separate eternal entities of God, soul and matter. All through his life he was a great fighter and was engaged in discussions with Sanskrit Pandits. He did not accept the six Hindu systems of worship, namely the Saiva, Vaishnava, Sakta, Ganapatya, Saura and Kaumara. He was strongly against idol worship and believed like the Brahma Samaj in a formless God. He advocated cow protection and pleaded for Brahmacharya and Vegetarianism. He was a great Yogi himself and believed in the efficacy of Yoga for the acquisition of spirituality. His standard work was the Satyarth Prakash in which he sought to establish the truth of all his doctrines and criticised not only the other religions such as Islam, Christianity and Buddhism but also the other Hindu systems of thought and worship.

But his greatest service for which he will ever be remembered was his organization of the Shuddhi and Sangathan movements for strengthening the hold of Hinduism on the masses and averting the danger to Hindu society consequent on militant proselytizing activities of other religions.

* LIFE OF DAYANAND SARASWATI By Hari Bilas Sarada. Vol. I. Pustakalaya, Hazratganj, Ajmer. Rs. 12.

—Continued from Page 360

When love and life are over
And flight is at an end
On the outcast Majesty
They lean as Friend

A E is what he is because his verse makes the Unseen so vividly hover round him almost like a half-seen aura of affirmation "There is another that beareth witness of me, and I know that the witness which He witnesseth of me is true *

But I would anticipate the reader who would infer from this that it is merely the rich psychic pabulum in A E's verse that I fed on hungrily Even darkness is rife with cosmic rays Only it does not give us the eye that sees A bare succinct statement of truth about God or Love seldom goes down with our beauty hungry life It is true A E sent me into raptures because his poetry served the Truth he visioned All the same the things he saw were so easily acceptable to me because his expression was instinct with the poets cry of adoration dripping sheer beauty But mere beauty would not have moved me For then the verse of Yeats or Tagore would certainly have meant at least as much to me as that of A E or Sri Aurobindo But though poets like Yeats, Tagore or Keats gave me a joy which it would be foolish to disclaim, it would be lunacy for me to say in deference to the highbrow critics that the

* New Testament

message of these was for me as light is to the eyes or warmth to the love thirsty heart None of them could for example, charm away a sense of dereliction (that has often overtaken me in life's slough of despond) as has been done again and again when I repeated A E's lines :

I sometimes think a mighty Lover
Takes every burning kiss we give
His lights are those which round us hover
For Him alone our lives we live

Or Sri Aurobindo's description of Savitri's spirit of purity

Her mind a sea of white sincerity,
Passionate in flow, had not one turbid
wave

A heart of silence in the hands of joy
Inhabited with rich creative beats
A body like a parable of dawn
That seemed a niche for veiled Divinity
Or golden temple door to things beyond

The last line gives almost apocalyptically, what I have always wanted poetry to do for me to open a golden temple door with a royal movement of beauty which beggar life quails even to approach *

* I have deliberately left out the Bhagwat for the same reason that I have omitted to mention Sri Aurobindo's 'Life Divine' because I have not been able fully to assess yet how much I have stored from the harvest that I reaped from either Moreover an influence that is so incalculable makes one shy about trying to fathom it with a tranquil survey One is reminded of Vivekananda's famous answer to the question as to why he had fought shy in Europe of belauding Sri Ramkrishna Because the great disciple answered I was not at all sure whether in belauding I would not be insulting him A plant may thank the soil for its sap but not the sun for his light

The Indian Cricket Team in England

By MR V R LAKSHMI RATAN

THE Third Official Indian Cricket Team now in England has covered itself with glory in all the matches they have played thus far. They lost their very first game in England against Worcestershire but they made ample amends subsequently in spite of very unkind weather. The team scored convincing victories against Surrey, a leading county as also against a fairly strong MCC side. Out of 13 games played up to the end of June the team has won 6 matches lost two and drew the rest.

MERCHANT THE MASTER

Vijay Merchant the Vice Captain of the side had been largely responsible for the Indian team's success. He has taken part in every match that the team has played. Strange as it may sound the victories scored by the side were all under his captaincy. Merchant has proved to his critics that he can get runs not only on the Brabourne Stadium wicket at Bombay but also on soft English wickets. His centuries against Leicester and MCC fetched him praise from all experts of the game. It was very unfortunate that he should have been out early in both the innings of the Lords Test. But there is no doubt that with his great determination and fighting qualities he would easily make up for this lapse in the remaining two tests and help India to achieve her first Test Victory against England.

THE CAPTAIN

The Captain of the team the Nawab of Pataudi in spite of his two centuries is still far from his form of a decade back. No one can question his greatness as a bat but one wonders whether the authorities that chose him as a Captain bore in mind the fact that he has been out of cricket for quite a while and cannot have much knowledge of the other members of the side. His handling of the bowling in the 1st Test was not above criticism. To add to all this his indifferent health has kept away from most of the games.

THE OTHER MEMBERS

Sarwate, Mankad, Modi, Hazare and Gul Mohamed have more than once distinguished themselves. Amarnath has had a lean time with the bat. However this great all rounder has made up for his batting failures by some excellent bowling. It is only Mushtaq Ali, C S Nayudu, Nimbalkar, Sohoni and Hafeez that have done nothing worthy of note so far. Hindlekar has been keeping wickets well while Gul Mohamed's fielding has been superb throughout.

THE LORDS TEST

The Indian Cricket Team played their first test against England at Lords on June 22nd, 24th and 25th. India won the toss and scored only 200 runs in the first innings on a reasonably good wicket. Merchant, Pataudi and Amarnath failed unaccountably. Only young Modi defied the English bowling and helped his side to reach a respectable score. Before stumps were drawn on the first day, four of England's best batsmen were out to Amarnath. But Hardstaff laid the foundation for an English victory. He played a fine innings to score an unbeaten 205 giving only one chance. Bedser and Ikin had a certain amount of luck by way of dropped catches. England finished up with 428 runs in the first innings leaving India to make 228 to avoid an innings defeat. Merchant was again out early. But Mankad and Amarnath saved their side from an innings defeat. England's opening pair hit up the required number of runs for their victory.

No doubt the England Eleven was a better side. But even the most optimistic of England supporters would not have expected such a big victory for England. No doubt omission of Sarwate and Banerjee, dropped catches and batting failure of the team as a whole were largely responsible for this.

There are two more test matches to go and given reasonable luck the Indian team should easily be able to give a better account of themselves.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The British Cabinet's Plan

AS we go to press the British Cabinet Delegation have reached home to report to the Prime Minister the result of their mission in India. On the face of it, it looks odd and somewhat disappointing that after all their unceasing parleys with the representatives of political parties in this country and their patient and indefatigable labours of over a hundred days they should have left nothing better than a caretaker government composed wholly of officials. And yet on closer examination this seeming anticlimax would have been worse, but for their firm and sagacious handling of the situation on the eve of their departure to England.

In so far as they have succeeded in making the Congress and the League accept their long term plan and set the machinery in operation they must be said to have achieved something worth doing. Of course it would have been splendid, if an interim government of a purely national character had been installed. But the hurdles were too many and too obstinate and we are faced with the option of accepting the lesser of the two evils. For an interim government, under the conditions on which the League insisted, would have proved disastrous to the freedom and lasting interests of the country.

Apart from other defects of the interim plan Mr. Jinnah's crusade against nationalist Muslims—and indeed against all Muslims who do not belong to the League—had become insufferable. And the Congress, representing the whole nation, irrespective of communal or religious differences could never subscribe to this claim. And Mr. Jinnah, by his repeated assertion of assurances from the Viceroy, made it impossible for the Congress, however eager to compromise with the League, to stand this totalitarian intolerance. The Congress cannot afford to sacrifice every other interests for the purpose of appeasing the unreasonable

demands of a minority, however influential. So even those who held that Congress should accept the interim proposals in spite of their obvious defeats finally upheld the Congress decision to reject them. As Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri put it:

Offered the choice of going into the Interim Government denying its present faith and future hope or keeping out of it retaining both the Congress has chosen the latter alternative in the lasting interests of the future. Much as many of us had hoped that work together in the Interim Government may pave the way to mutual understanding and a satisfactory solution of our political problems we cannot blame the Congress for their choice as between the two alternatives open. In difficult situations where two views are possible and opinions widely diverge, we are often driven to make our choice as best we may and abide by whatever happens.

After all, even this unsatisfactory and "unnational" arrangement may act as a further incentive to all the parties to hasten the hour of agreement. In the words of Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, it is possible that

the installation of a purely official interim government is a definite commitment for further action it will prevent any misinterpretation of the present postponement as a *ruse* to cover total abandonment of the idea of forming a popular Interim Government.

Satyagraha in South Africa

All efforts of South African Indians to stop the Ghetto Bill having failed, they have been forced to resort to the extreme step of civilly defying the Anti-Indian laws. Satyagraha or Passive Resistance, in the form in which it has been put into operation is not new to that Colony. Gandhi gave a taste of it in his time in South Africa, and two generations of South African Indians have kept the fires burning. According to *Reuters*, picked Indians, men and women, headed by Dr. Naicker commenced Satyagraha on June 14, in respect of the segregation law. It would appear that in the first instance neither the Government nor the Municipality had taken any action against the Passive Resisters but the whites in Durban had taken the execution of the law into their own hands by raiding the

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BA CHRONICLER

The Atom Bomb Test

ONE of the greatest historic tests was the dropping of the atom bomb at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific. For months past arrangements had been made by the government of USA in collaboration with a team of scientists and other experts. The atom bomb was dropped at 22 01 GMT (3 31 IST) (Sunday night June 30) and exploded two minutes later.

The Lagoon harbouring the target ships disappeared in masses of flame and smoke which rose to over 50 000 feet. The whole lagoon was blanketed in smoke with its centre core a bright orange yellow.

The Lagoon at Bikini has a water surface of 230 square miles. Dispersed over this area were 123 warships and merchant ships.

Exhaustive arrangements had been made to record happenings and gather material for further scientific examination.

The interesting features of the experiment were the effects of the explosion on livestock aboard the suicide fleet including 200 goats, 200 pigs and 4 000 rats. From these biologists expect to learn the effect of nuclear Gamma rays on humans.

Admiral W H P Blandy, commander of the Atom Bomb Task Force, broadcasting from the bridge of the Atom Command ship at Bikini, in the first official report on history's fourth Atom Bomb drop, declared that the drop was a success.

Admiral Blandy said that the Atom Bomb dropped on the 30th night was of the same type as that used last year on the Japanese City of Nagasaki—the bomb that ended the war against Japan.

It would however appear that the results of the test at Bikini Atoll were not as terrifying as the vigorous imagination of some scientists had led us to expect.

Independence for the Philippines

The Republic of the Philippines was formally inaugurated on July 4 when the United States High Commissioner, Mr Paul McNutt, publicly proclaimed the independence of the Philippines on behalf of President Truman. The ceremony coincided with America's own Independence Day.

Manuel Roxas was sworn in as President and M Elpi Quirino as Vice President to guide their country in its first years of Independence.

General Douglas MacArthur, who led the liberation of the islands from the Japanese, described the infant Republic as coming into being amidst issues which never weighed more heavily upon the destiny of the human race.

Freedom came to the Philippines after a ten year transitional period as a Commonwealth with a Filipino chief executive.

Mr Roxas, after taking the Presidential oath, declared 'A new era has come to the Orient. Any doubts which may still linger in some quarters of the earth as to the benign intentions of America should be resolved by what she has so nobly and unselfishly accomplished here.'

The Palestine Issue

The Palestine question created an unprecedented scene in the House of Commons on July 1 when the Labour Member Mr Sidney Silverman defied his Party chiefs and successfully moved an adjournment motion to discuss the situation as a matter of urgency.

Mr Silverman's move was followed by a statement by Mr Attlee, in which he said that the British Government intended to persevere with their attempts to reach a settlement on the lines of the report of the Anglo-American Commission.

'I wish to make it plain,' he added, 'that H M's Government will not tolerate any attempts by any party to influence the decision on Palestine by force.'

Indian camps and cutting down the tents. Since then there have been arrests and more hoodliganism: men and women have been assaulted and organised popular lawlessness on a wide scale is doing duty for the executive. This is lynch law, pure and simple, and no civilised Government could countenance it. In an article in the *Haryana* Mahatma Gandhi draws attention to this nasty turn in South African politics and calls on whitemen throughout the world and especially of India to act upon their fellowmen in South Africa to desist from molesting Indian resisters who are bravely struggling to preserve the self respect of Indians in the Union and the honour of their motherland.

Is a civilisation worth the name which requires for its existence the very doubtful prop of racial legislation and lynch law? The silver lining to the cloud that hangs over the devoted lands of our countrymen lies in the plucky action of Rev. Scott, a White clergyman and his equally White fellow workers who have undertaken to share the sufferings of the Indian resisters.

India's Case before U.N.O.

But the cause has to be fought in two fronts and India has opened a two front war against South African intolerance. The government of India has decided to fight the issue on the international plane as well. The right of India to place the issue before U.N.O. is indisputable. Article 14 of the U.N.O. Charter states that the General Assembly

may recommend measures for the peaceful settlement of any situation regardless of origin which it deems likely to impair the general welfare or friendly relations among nations including situations resulting from a violation of the provisions of the present Charter setting forth the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Both India and South Africa, reminds the *Hindustan Times*, are members of U.N.O. and a situation has arisen impairing friendly relations between them as can be seen by the economic war already subsisting between the two countries. According to our contemporary, there has also been a violation of the purposes of the Charter. These include, *vide* Article 1 (3), promotion of

respect for human rights and for fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

U.N.O. comes into the picture as it claims to be "a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends." Again, Article 55 enjoins on U.N.O. to promote

universal respect for, and observance of human rights and fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, language or religion.

And under Article 56 all members of U.N.O.

pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 53.

Gandhi's Escape from Train Accident

It certainly seems strange that anybody should have attempted to harm one like Gandhi, a leader who has so completely dedicated his life to the service of others. Yet the fact remains that a deliberate attempt was made to wreck the Special by which he was travelling from Bombay to Poona. Gandhi naturally sees the hand of God in his escape: he has been seven times lucky, he says. 'I have done no harm to anybody during all my life. What can anybody gain by killing such an innocent person,' he asks. That another train had passed the same track half an hour earlier without any obstruction shows that the attempt on Gandhi was deliberate and well timed. No doubt, as has been reported, there will be a thorough enquiry into the affair, but for the moment our thoughts go out to Gandhi—with a sense of relief and thankfulness for his deliverance from the great evil to which the miscreants had been tempted. At his great age and after the strain of the talks at Simla and Delhi Gandhi could hardly have withstood the more serious consequence of a derailment. We cannot too strongly condemn the lawless instinct that found expression in this particular act of wickedness and folly.

CHINESE WOMEN AND FREEDOM By Anil De Silva. Kutch Publishers 242, Shukrawar, Poona, Price Rs 2 12

The author traces with unusual skill and insight the evolution of Chinese women and their emancipation from the bonds of outmoded customs and taboos in ancient China. She has given us a lively and readable account of the representative figures against the background of their time who have made history in Chinese life and thought.

THE PROBLEM OF AUSTRIA By E J. Passant. Oxford Pamphlets on World Affairs No 72. Oxford University Press 6d. Though Austria has been liberated by the Allies from the Nazi yoke, the future of the country rests on the solution of three problems, namely the relation of the Austrians to the Germans, the internal divisions amongst the Austrians themselves and the capacity of the country to maintain a satisfactory and self-sufficient economic life. Mr Passant gives us a clue to the understanding of these conflicting issues in this pamphlet.

FOOD IN THE UNITED PROVINCES S G Sardesai. People's Publishing House, Raj Bhuvan, Bombay As 12

In this illuminating pamphlet littered with statistics Mr S G Sardesai examines in detail the acuteness of the food problem in the United Provinces. Mr Sardesai comes to the conclusion that the origin of the food crisis lies in the extremely narrow minded, incompetent and autocratic manner in which the Government tries to handle the question and its fear of seeking popular co-operation in its solution.

43) LARS JAYANT AND TARA By George Barrett. Thacker and Co. Bombay. Price Rs 7 8

The many significant changes that have crept into Indian society during the last four decades in the sphere of customs, manners, outlook and ideology form the core of this interesting novel. The story centres round the fortunes of an orthodox Brahmin family in an obscure village and of an untouchable Dheo family of the same village as represented by the two typical characters Jayant and Tara.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THROUGH AN INDIAN CAMERA 2 VOLS By Sir Albion Banerji. Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. Bangalore City

TWO HISTORIC TRIALS IN RED FORT With a foreword by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Edited by Moti Ram. Hindustan Times. New Delhi

CALL OF THE LAND By J N Chakravarty. General Printers and Publishers Ltd., 119 Dharamtala Street. Calcutta

SRI RAMAKRISHNA AND HIS MISSION By Swami Ramakrishnananda. Sri Ramakrishna Math. Mysore

19 SHORT STORIES International Book House Ltd. Bombay

ZOROASTRIANISM in the light of Occult Philosophy By H P Blavatsky. International Book House Ltd., Bombay

RELIGION AND THE FAMILY By Geoffrey Hayman. George Allen & Unwin. London

TEMPERARY UNCLE By Capt H Catchpole, M.A. London

HANGMAN THE HEROIC IDOL OF HINDUSTAN By Swami Mathyarantha. Sri Ramakrishna Math. Wari Dacca

SUNSET STORIES Jean Hughes. Thacker & Co. Ltd. Bombay. Rs 2 8

WHAT GANDHIJI HAS DONE FOR INDIA Being a collection of articles on Gandhiji's life and work compiled by B L Rallia Ram. Hami Markaz. Y M C A. Lahore. Rs 3 4

WISDOM OF MODERN INDIA Edited by B L Rallia Ram and Lajpat Rai. Nar Institute of Current Affairs. Lahore. Rs 2 8

PRICE CONTROL IN INDIA with special reference to Food supply. Popular Book Depot. Bombay

THE YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO Part III, By Nolini Kanda Gupta. Sri Aurobindo Library, 369, Feslanade. Madras

MATRIALISM OF MARX & ENGELS ? People's. Sandhurst Road. Bombay

By Lokhart Howell, Thacker & Co.,



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

- 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE HINDU DOCTRINES By Rene Guenon Translated into English by Marco Pallis
- 2 MAN AND HIS BECOMING ACCORDING TO THE VEDANTA by the same author Translated into English by R. C. Nicholson Luzac & Co London Price 12/6 each

Of these two books which are translations from the French, only one, i.e. the second deals exclusively with Indian thought the other is concerned with Eastern thought in general and utilises the Indian doctrines for illustrating the principles underlying it. Both the books are unlike the works that are now usually published in Europe touching Eastern philosophy and religion. The author totally disapproves of their treatment by the orientalist, and often criticises their method of study as well as the results they have reached. He points out that obsessed by a belief that there is virtually nothing of value in human civilisation which is not Greek in its origin they belittle the achievements of Eastern thinkers and assign to their views as late a date as is possible in the circumstances. For example, the Vaiseshika theory of atoms he says is traced by them to Greek sources while it is in reality indigenous to India. The author's own approach to the study of these subjects, as may be expected, is different. He aims at expounding them strictly in accordance with their traditional interpretation, and in this aim, he generally succeeds.

It may be admitted that there is some truth in the author's contention that the 'professional orientalist', as he styles them, have a tendency to underestimate the worth of Eastern achievements. But it appears to us that by stressing this defect too much and by failing to give credit to these scholars for the valuable work they have done in so many fields of research, he considerably weakens the effect which he desires to produce on the reader's mind.

A B C OF CENTRAL BANKING By Nawab Mir Nawaz Jung and Mr Kesava Iyengar Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, Bangalore City Rs 20

To us who have not many good books on the highly technical subject of Banking, especially Indian Banking, this sumptuous volume comes as quite a handy and authoritative treatise on the subject.

The feudal economy of the land being invaded by money, results in the growth of a number of banks with various types of functions. Banks which directly finance the production and trade are considered retailers and to increase the liquidity of these retail banks, their credits are kept in large banks which act as wholesalers of credit. Such a bank is called the Central Bank and its responsibilities and functions are much wider. Its main functions will be to keep stable the purchasing power of the currency. It is claimed that in the postwar era central banks are bound to develop into technically equipped arbiters of the economic destinies of the respective countries.

The book contains many authoritative extracts from other sources, and laboriously compiled. In the appendices are given a resume of the part played by UK during the war, other useful banking data and the main essentials of the Bretton Woods Scheme and San Francisco Charter.

Being a rare, authoritative work on the subject the book should be useful not only to students of banking and bankers but should stimulate provocative thought in laymen too.

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THE YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO Part III By Nalin Kanta Gupta Sri Aurobindo Library 360 Esplanade Madras

HISTORICAL MATERIALISM OF MARX & ENGELS People's Publishing Sandhurst Road Bombay

WILD JUSTICE By Lokhart Howell Thacker & Co Bombay

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- June 1 Mr Edward Stettinius U S delegate to the Security Council resigns Resignation not accepted by President Truman
- June 2 Viceroy in his letter to Congress President clarifies scope of interim government
- Gandhiji criticises vital defects of the Cabinet Mission's plan
- June 3 Food shipments to India
- New York Radio reports a third plot to kill MacArthur foiled by American precautions
- June 4 Sikh leaders invited to meet Cabinet Mission
- Sir H J Kania appointed Judge of the Federal Court
- June 5 Italy votes for Republic
- June 6 Muslim League accepts Cabinet Plan
- Mr Bevin outlines Britain's policy towards Russia
- June 7 Empire Press Conference in London discusses conditions for membership
- June 8 Boy King of Siam's tragic end death due to gun explosion
- Sir Edward Benthall agrees to refer Railway dispute to adjudication
- June 9 Mr. V V Giri appeals to Railwaymen to postpone strike and give an opportunity to Interim Govt to settle dispute amicably
- June 10 Princes accept Cabinet plan
- Sikh opposition to Cabinet Council of Action set up
- June 11 Congress reiterates opposition to party
- 25 000 Indian labourers in Ceylon on strike
- June 12 Constitutional crisis in Italy
- Gandhiji appeals to Europeans to keep clear of Constituent Assembly
- June 13 King's birthday honours
- South African Congress gives notice of Passive Resistance
- June 14 King Umberto leaves Italy to avert bloodshed
- June 15 U S Senate passes Indian Immigration Bill
- June 16 Breakdown of Delhi talks Cabinet Mission to give award
- June 17 List of Councillors for Interim Government announced
- Satyagraha in South Africa, Whites raid Indian camp
- June 18 Congress President meets Cabinet Mission Crisis over the award
- Terrorism in Palestine
- June 19 De Gaulle's warning to French nation
- June 20 Gen Montgomery in Delhi
- King opens Empire Scientific Conference in London
- June 21 Dr Benes elected Czech President
- Kashmir ban on Pandit Nehru
- June 22 Ex Mufti, a refuge of the Khedive in Cairo
- Azad's summons to Pandit Nehru
- June 23 Railway strike averted
- India indicts South Africa before U N O
- June 24 Congress rejects Cabinet Mission's Interim plan
- June 25 Dr Yusuf Dadoo and 46 Indian Passive resisters arrested in Durban
- June 26 Railwaymen withdraw notice of strike and normal booking resumed
- June 27 Cabinet Mission's statement adjourning further parleys
- Satyagraha in S A.—Dr G M Ncher arrested again
- June 28 Care taker Government to be set up on July 4
- Dr Khare's resignation accepted
- June 29 Viceroy Jinnah correspondence released
- Care taker Government personnel announced
- June 30 Atom bomb test in the Pacific
- Dr Sharir Indonesian Prime Minister, kidnapped



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



INDIA AT THE CROSS ROADS

The *Modern Review* for June, discussing the prospects of freedom dawning on India as a result of the Cabinet Mission's labours urges that the country should prepare itself for the tasks and responsibilities ahead. India is at the cross roads. We are now at a period of our history when the utmost of realism and deliberation is called for. The question before us is 'are we prepared for freedom or are we not?'

Responsibilities are about to devolve on us, the like of which we have not been accustomed to shoulder for centuries past though it is true that it was not so because of our own volition. Are we ready with our plans for the Army the Navy, the Airforce and other warlike means of defence the tariff barriers for halting the economic aggression of International finance with its cartels and mergers the plans and blue prints of a programme by which this country can march forward without getting involved into internal or external strife, the extensive and exceedingly complex organisation of international politics and diplomacy necessary for maintaining foreign relations and so on and so forth?

In short are we prepared to lift our gaze beyond the narrow limits--mostly provincial or communal--to which it is accustomed?

Take the case of the armed forces, for example

What are our plans for controlling directing and maintaining a standing army, very many divisions in strength with the exceedingly complicated machinery for continuous training and limitless adaptation of latest technique and the latest arms to keep the fighting forces up-to-date. The balance of War means Specialists for every branch and a highly trained General staff composed mainly of tried veterans. And the same is true of the Navy and the Air forces. There is no shortage it is true of staunch and intelligent men and officers in this country. The fighting record of the Indian army in this war has proved that to the hilt. But what about the specialized training needed for mechanization artillery and the manifold branches of modern warfare inclusive of higher strategy? What about the production of armament and its safe keeping and the guarding of defence secrets?

We have had sufficient training in the matter of internal affairs and some provincial administrations under the Congress were considerable successes but the case is quite different in the matter of foreign affairs

It is true that the coming of freedom cannot be halted by these or any other consideration, since all these would take considerable time, but is it not time to think how we are going to take over and to plan for a transition without leaving any part in *tacuo* and without causing any chaos in the affairs of the nation?

'INDIA IS FILE BOUND'

Giving what he describes as the 'balance sheet of the Government of India' in an article in the *Daily Mail*, Frank Owen, former Editor of the forces' newspaper *SEAC* says "To day India is file bound and a symbol and monument of that condition is the vulgar and pompous monstrosity which is the Imperial village called New Delhi, utterly remote from the daily existence of India and a kind of bureaucratic Babylon. This indeed has been the biggest entry on the debit side of the ledger of our account with India

"Though it would appal most of our 'correct' British to be told so, one of our most unfortunate exports to India has been bad manners. For it is only bad manners when we fail to realise what is going on in the heart of the man or woman with whom our lot is linked. Well, we have got to mend our manners if we wish to continue together. Now, we have a chance to build a new relationship. We should be mad if we did not take it. For I am very certain that India will have need of Englishmen long after the formal British rule has ended there."

WOMEN AND INDIAN VILLAGES

"Until the women can teach their children clean and regular habits, self-control, self respect and the fear of god how can we hope for any lessening of the curse of litigation false evidence and bribery?" asks Mr F L Bryne in the course of an article in the *Arjan Path*. How, indeed, can we get good citizens with high standards of honesty, work and craftsmanship?

All the post war plans for India are aimed at raising the standard of living of the people. But the standard of living is the standard of the home, and the home is in charge of the women.

The best the men can do is to produce the raw material and the money and create the environment in which the women can make their homes perfect. The women, however, are at present in complete ignorance of what can be done to improve home and health. This means that our first and basic plans must be for the proper education of the girls and for the domestic training of the grown up women who are too late for school life. This means a network of domestic training schools provincial schools for the training of staff, and district tahsil and taluk schools for those women who can spare the time to come for short courses. For those who cannot leave the village are needed touring teams of trained women spending a month in one village to teach the women the elements of home work and then going on to another village, leaving behind them a Co operative Women's Better Homes Society to consolidate and continue the work.

Every school and college must teach domestic work and every degree and diploma, for whatever subject, must include a very practical domestic test which no student can avoid.

If ever girls' education is to be general India must follow the rest of the world and make the village school co educational up to the lower middle standard with female as well as male teachers. And to ensure that the girls shall have their fair share of what education is available.

TOTAL PROHIBITION

Under the title, "Total Prohibition", Mahatma Gandhi says in *Haryan*

"National Provincial Governments are now in full swing in India. Happily on the question of Prohibition, there can be no differences of opinion, between the Congress and the Muslim League. And if all followed a concerted policy and the States too joined in, India would be dry in no time and earn the blessings of lakhs of homes. To the discredit of the Governments under virtual martial law, Governors and their Advisers had the shamelessness to reverse the policy which had been already adopted in some Provinces and misappropriate the revenue which was raised by the Provinces in question. Let them now take up prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs. Let them, too, not rest content with Prohibition legislation. They have to devise methods of education and health giving drinks in every bar or failing that a place next door to it should as far as possible be utilised as a refreshment and recreation room. If this constructive work is taken up, it must prove a source of revenue for the State besides Prohibition benefiting and reconstructing thousands of ruined homes.

Moreover, to day tapping should be replaced by the nira tapping for the purpose of converting nira into gur much to the advantage of the nation which needs cheap sugar. These columns have shown how in some ways 'tad' gur is preferable to cane 'gur'.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

Summarising the Congress objections to the British scheme as three fold—powers of the Interim Government, compulsory grouping of provinces and status of the Constituent Assembly—the left wing Labour weekly *Tribune* justifies the Cabinet Mission's rejection of the first two demands on the ground of necessity to conciliate Mr Jinnah.

There is nothing to stop Parliament from adjusting the constitution to meet the Congress views as regards the power of the Interim Government, observes the *Tribune* but 'the real basis for the Mission's refusal is the fear that the Muslim League would refuse to serve in any Interim Government responsible to a Congress dominated Central Legislature'. Similar unwillingness to antagonise the League governs the Mission's insistence on compulsory grouping of provinces and since the British scheme provides for opting out of any province from the group, the Congress has not a particularly strong case here.

The Mission's attitude to the question of the Constituent Assembly is less easy to understand, continues the *Tribune*. 'No adequate grounds for withholding sovereignty were given in the Mission's last statement. The fact that the British Government has to conclude the final treaty with the Indian Union to emerge from the Assembly's labour is surely not in itself an argument for withholding sovereignty from the Assembly. If ultimate independence is to be made conditional on the actual signing of the treaty then the whole business takes on the character of a hard bargain rather than admission of India's immediate right to freedom.'

"It may be argued that the Interim Government responsible to the Viceroy and

thus to Whitehall, cannot exist side by side with a sovereign Constituent Assembly. but this is simply to argue that it is somehow illogical for the Viceroy to retain *de jure* control of the interim administration while a free and independent Constitution-making body works out the shape of administration which has to take over from the Viceroy. And there would seem to be nothing illogical in this." Saying that these points "may yet be cleared up between the negotiating parties," the *Tribune* proceeds to accord full praise to the Mission for the painstaking and conscientious manner in which it is carrying out its historic monumental task.

BRITAIN'S INDEBTEDNESS TO INDIA

It was Churchill, who described India as the brightest jewel in the British Crown. It was he again who told the Britisher that one in five among them owe their livelihood to India.

Now a British writer, Mr Harry Gregson, amplifies this statement in *Tribune* and shows how much the Britisher owes his better living standards to India. But unlike Churchill, he doesn't want India to be held down by force but wants freedom to be granted to this country so that both Britain and India may prosper.

"India, he writes has provided fortunes for investors and careers for Civil Servants, employment for many thousand Britons and interest on British investments."

The jute industry at Dundee is founded on Indian jute. The hemp-growing plantations, largely British-owned, were a source of wealth to British subjects in India. Every one of India's 300 million people spent in 1937 an average of two pence on British goods. India in 1937 which is a good average year sent to Britain goods valued at 67 millions sterling. Nearly all of Britain's tea, a great deal of her leather, raw cotton, jute, rice, hides, goat skins, ore, rubber, oil cake for farmers, coal, shellac for gramophone records, insulation came from India. Pepper for the British breakfast tables was derived largely from India. The welfare of Britain and India is in fact bound up one with the other.

Working in harmony, Britain and India can do much to improve each other's lot.

THE ISSUE OF INDEPENDENCE

Until a few years ago it was fashionable for British leaders and writers on Indian affairs to question whether the Indians were "ready" for independence, says Morroe Berger in the *Voice of India*. Seldom was it made clear what the criteria are for a people's readiness to conduct their own government. The nature of these criteria was vividly revealed however, in British colonial policy after World War. When Egypt or Iraq for example proved to be particularly troublesome concessions were made to self government. Thus while denouncing violence and revolution, the British apparently accepted this kind of political activity as evidence of a people's readiness for further independence. Another relevant statement, by A. Berriedale Keith who has served in the Colonial office, appears in a pamphlet of semi-official status in the "British Life and Thought" series sponsored by the British Council. It reads:

It is a major part of British policy even among the most backward peoples of Africa to encourage them [the peoples in the Colonies] always to be able to stand a little more on their own feet and the best assurance these peoples can have that this spirit will continue to be a guide in the management of their affairs is that they shall continue their association with the British Empire.

Mr Berger goes on to point out that we may reasonably infer from this remarkable statement that by not engaging in political activity to obtain independence, subject peoples will more assuredly get it, and that opposition to continued "association with the British Empire" will only mean that Great Britain will no longer encourage self government for the people who act in this manner.

There are other more pertinent criteria for independence. According to this writer,

India has a sufficiently large body of informed people to be self governing. It has the necessary ideological leaders, the administrators, the press, the schools and the legislators. It has a considerable body of democratic, internationalist thought. It meets the real test of readiness for nationhood: the desire of a group of people to be considered a nation.

CRIMES IN THE NAME OF PATRIOTISM

Under the caption 'Wholesale Release' Mahatma Gandhi writes in the *Haryan* —

'Responsible Ministries in the Provinces have naturally meant wholesale release of political prisoners. These include convicts sentenced for murder, arson, robbery, etc. Correspondents ask how far those released should be acclaimed by the public as heroes and martyrs

It is one thing to release for a variety of reasons persons who were convicted of such crimes. It is wholly another thing to praise the acts as of heroes to be received with every mark of honour. I have no doubt that it is thoughtless and wrong. If I am in need of money for public purposes and commit robbery I do not cease to be a robber because the robbery committed by me is for public use. This indiscriminate praise of every crime so long as it is dignified by the name of patriotism is a boomerang bound to return with redoubled force to the nation which will have to pay heavily for it.

Independence, though it includes the freedom even to commit a crime, may easily prove a curse if it does not carry a voluntary rigid restraint. The public approbation referred to is wrong education of the people and a harmful preparation for the independence that is coming much sooner than many of us expect."

INDIAN STATES

—(0)—

Hyderabad

INDUSTRIAL DELEGATION

Nawab Zain Yarjung Bahadur, Public Works Member, Nizam's Council and Leader of the Hyderabad Industrial and Commercial Delegation has left for the United Kingdom.

Interviewed by the API Nawab Zain Yarjung revealed that the object of the mission was fourfold. Firstly to establish permanent contact between industrial magnates in U. K, USA and Canada and Hyderabad industrialists and Government, secondly to explore the possibilities of opening Trade Commissioners offices in U K and USA for advancement of local trade with those countries, thirdly make arrangements for training technical personnel, and fourthly place orders for machinery needed to give effect to Hyderabad's industrial and other plans. The cost of various types of machinery for which orders are to be called will run into several crores of rupees.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

A fifteen year scheme for the development of handloom weaving, dyeing and printing industries, it is learnt, is under the consideration of the Nizam's Government.

During the first five year period under the scheme, 12 main centres and 24 sub centres in Gulbarga, Raichur, Medak, Warangal and Karimnagar districts will be opened at a cost of about Rs 5 lakhs recurring and nearly Rs 7 lakhs non recurring. The recurring amount will be doubled in the second and trebled in the third quinquennium.

SIR MIRZA ISMAIL

Sir Mirza M Ismail, who has been appointed President of the Council of H E H the Nizam of Hyderabad, will take up his new post by the end of July, 1946.

Mysore

MYSORE BUDGET

"We are on the eve of momentous constitutional changes. The visit of the British Cabinet Mission has raised hopes that India will soon be a free and united country, within or outside the British Commonwealth according to her own choice. If these hopes are not fulfilled, or if the constitution that emerges is anomalous or unsatisfactory, we shall have none to blame but ourselves. A great responsibility rests on the political leaders of the country," observed Mr Madhava Rau, Dewan of Mysore addressing the budget session of the Mysore Representative Assembly.

Reviewing the financial position of the State and the revised estimates for 1945-46 the Dewan said "The total revenue estimated for the current year is Rs. 926.7 lakhs and in spite of several unfavourable factors there has been a small improvement in the position, the total revenue according to revised estimates amounting to Rs 944.89 lakhs. The revised estimate of expenditure shows an increase of Rs 24.69 lakhs over the Budget estimate of Rs 918.20 lakhs. The abstract of the Budget position for 1946-47 is as follows: Total revenue Rs 907.29 lakhs, total expenditure Rs 905.29 lakhs, Surplus Rs 2 lakhs."

SALARY OF MYSORE TEACHERS

The Government of Mysore have ordered the enhancement of the basic pay of middle school teachers in the State from Rs 20 to Rs 25 per month with retrospective effect from June 1, 1945. This it is stated, would affect the State Exchequer to the extent of over Rs 60,000 per annum and benefit about 1,781 non graduate teachers in the

Travancore

STATES AND THE CABINET PLAN

A detailed reference to the salient features of the Cabinet Mission's proposals looked at from the States' point of view was made by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore, addressing a press conference at Trivandrum. Referring to the despatches from New Delhi reporting that the political negotiations there had reached a deadlock, he said 'I personally wholly approve of the stand taken by the Congress in regard to the question of parity. There can never possibly be parity between 90 or 100 million Muslims and 300 millions of others. It seems certain that on that matter there can and should be no half measures'.

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar expressed the view that as a result of the recent talks and discussions that had taken place in Delhi, Simla and Bombay, the States had met with fairly definite success in their negotiations. The British Government having expressed their desire either to grant independence to India or any form of Government of their own choice, the States had to make up their minds as to how they stood in the new set up. On that matter, without faltering or a dissentient voice. Notwithstanding all the previous pronouncements and previous attitude, Indian Rulers made up their minds that they would stand by the people of India as a whole in their claim for complete independence.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

A Press Note issued by the Government of Travancore says. In conformity with the declared policy of the Government to introduce free and compulsory primary education in the State and their notification connected therewith the scheme has been introduced as a first step in the taluks of Thovalai and Agastheeswaram and the City of Trivandrum when the primary schools reopened on June 3 1946.

Baroda

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT

The government adopted a policy of providing with a library in every village where there is a school, the help given by government and district boards being equal to contribution raised by the village, and for annual expenses, government gives a grant equal to the contribution raised by the library. With this object mofussil libraries are grouped under three classes, district libraries receive upto Rs 700, town libraries upto Rs 300, and village libraries upto Rs 100. Women's libraries and children's receive grant on the basis of village libraries and reading rooms upto Rs 50. Under this policy, the number of district libraries rose from 697 in 1930 to 1,514 in 1945. Besides this, there is the travelling libraries' section which serves about 375 centres. The population served by the libraries now forms 100 percent of the town population and 78.27 percent of the village, and 82.6 per cent of the population of the State as a whole.

EDUCATION IN BARODA

There are 2,563 government primary schools with 6,746 teachers and 41 government secondary schools with 477 teachers. There is a special Inspector for secondary schools. There are 4 colleges affiliated to the Bombay University and many new colleges: a medical college, an engineering college and three more arts colleges are being started. Technical education is provided for at the Kalabhavan central technical institute and several technical schools in the districts.

Sandur**CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS**

Addressing a meeting of village and urban officials in the Durbar Hall Her Highness the Ranisaheb Maharaj of Sandur (President of the State Executive Council) explained the salient features of the new constitution Act of the State and appealed for co operation

She pointed out that in a few days they would have a Popular Minister to guide the State and said that a Government grant amounting to Rs 5 per head of the population had been made available to each Panchayat and Municipality under Section 20 (2) of the Sandur State Constitution Act of 1946. A great responsibility now devolved on them, the representatives of the people but Her Highness felt sure that impelled by the desire to create a greater Sandur and better their own conditions of life, they would stick to their objectives and fulfil their responsibilities

Kashmir**PANDIT NEHRU AND KASHMIR**

Disclosing that Mr Kak, Prime Minister of Kashmir, has himself admitted that he had deliberately prepared for eleven months to "meet the challenge" of the Kashmir National Conference, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in a statement calls on Mr Kak to justify his activities before an impartial tribunal

'It is no small matter to prepare for eleven long months for an attack on a popular organisation, and then to hand over the State to military administration with all the consequences that this entails', Pandit Nehru declares

Pandit Nehru further says that the Maharaja "has apparently given a blank cheque to the Prime Minister, and inevitably the feeling against the Prime Minister and others extends itself now to the Maharaja also, for he is ultimately responsible"

Bikaner**PLAN FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVT**

A responsible Government for Bikaner State is promised by H H the Maharaja in a statement issued last month announcing that on his next birthday August 31, he will make a formal proclamation outlining the new Constitution

'The object I have in view,' he says, 'is the establishment of a form of Government which, under the regis of the Ruler will be responsible to the people, thus fully associating them with the administration of the State within a specified time, taking into due consideration the conditions and circumstances existing in the State'

Cochin**SEDITION LAW IN COCHIN**

According to a notification issued by the Cochin Government explaining the purpose of Section 120 (Sedition) of the Cochin Penal Code, any person in Cochin State committing the offence of sedition against H H the Maharaja of Travancore and the Travancore Government could be proceeded against under that section in Cochin State Courts

Jaipur**SIR V T KRISHNAMACHARI**

Sir V T Krishnamachari who will succeed Sir Mirza as the Prime Minister of Jaipur will assume charge of his office on August 1

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CABINET MISSION'S STATEMENT

The following is the text of the statement issued by the Cabinet Mission and HE the Viceroy

The Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy are glad that constitution making can now proceed with the consent of the two major parties and of the States. They welcome the statements made to them by the Leaders of the Congress and the Muslim League that it is their intention to try and work in the Constituent Assembly so as to make it a speedy and effective means of devising the new constitutional arrangements under which India can achieve her independence. They are sure that the members of the Constituent Assembly who are about to be elected will work in this spirit.

The Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy regret that it has not so far proved possible to form an Interim Coalition Government, but they are determined that the effort should be renewed in accordance with the terms of Paragraph 8 of their statement of June 16. Owing, however, to the very heavy burden which has been cast upon the Viceroy and the representatives of the parties during the last three months, it is proposed that the further negotiations should be adjourned for a short interval during the time while the elections for the Constituent Assembly will be taking place. It is hoped that when the discussions are resumed, the leaders of the two major parties, who have all expressed their agreement with the Viceroy and the Cabinet Mission on the need for the speedy formation of a representative Interim Government, will do their utmost to arrive at an accommodation upon the composition of that Government.

As the Government of India must be carried on until a new Interim Government can be formed it is the intention of the Viceroy to set up a temporary caretaker Government officials.

It is not possible for the Cabinet Mission to remain longer in India as they must return to report to the British Cabinet and Parliament and also to resume their work from which they have been absent for over three months. They, therefore, propose to leave India on Saturday next, June 29. In leaving India the members of the Cabinet Mission express their cordial thanks for all the courtesy and consideration which they have received as guests in the country and they must sincerely trust that the steps which have been initiated will lead to a speedy realisation of the hopes and wishes of the Indian people.

The members of the Mission have accordingly left for England and the caretaker Government has been installed.

CONGRESS RESOLUTION

The following is the resolution passed by the Congress Working Committee on the Cabinet Mission's proposals —

The kind of independence Congress has aimed at is the establishment of a united democratic Indian Federation, with a Central Authority, which would command respect from the nations of the world maximum Provincial Autonomy and equal rights for all men and women in the country. The limitation of the Central Authority, as contained in the proposals as well as the system of grouping of Provinces, weakened the whole structure and was unfair to some Provinces such as the N.W.F. Province and Assam, and to some of the minorities notably the Sikhs. The Committee disapproved of this. They felt, however, that taking the proposals as a whole, there was sufficient scope for enlarging and strengthening the Central Authority and for fully ensuring the right of a Province to act according to its choice in regard to grouping and to give protection to such minorities as might otherwise be placed at a disadvantage.

Certain other objections were also raised on their behalf, notably the possibility of non-nationals taking any part in the constitution making. It is clear that it would be breach of both the letter and spirit of the statement of May 16 if any non-Indian participated in the voting or standing for election to the Constituent Assembly.

In the proposals for an Interim Government contained in the statement of June 16, the defects related to matters of vital concern to the Congress. Some of these have been pointed out in the letter dated June 23 of the Congress President to the Viceroy. The Provisional Government must have power and authority and responsibility and should function in fact, if not in law, as a *de facto* Independent Government leading to the full independence to come. The members of such a Government can only hold themselves responsible to the people and not to any external authority. In the formation of a Provincial or other Government, Congressmen can never give up the national character of the Congress or accept an artificial and unjust party, or agree to the veto of a communal group. The Committee are unable to accept the proposals for the formation of an Interim Government as contained in the statement of June 16.

The Committee have, however, decided that the Congress should join the proposed Constituent Assembly with a view to framing the constitution of a united and democratic India.

Utterances of the Day

SIR S RADHAKRISHNAN'S ADVICE

The need for everyone subordinating purely personal ends to the common good was stressed by Sir S Radhakrishnan in an address he delivered to students of the Vivekananda College, Mylapore on July 1 immediately before they entered on their work for the year.

Religion, Sir Sarvapalli said is not exclusive of social life. In an exaggerated emphasis on spirituality, we tended to neglect social concerns. To-day, the time has come when we have to interpret religion as a call to serve God in the souls of men and to make their starving bodies and furnished minds clove and protect themselves from sorrow. That is religion that is politics. That is patriotism that is piety. That is Vivekananda. I hope this institution will bear in mind these great ideals and further the cause of India's enlightenment.

LOUIS FISCHER ON INDIA'S FUTURE

In an informal after dinner chat with press correspondents at New Delhi on July 1 Mr Louis Fischer the noted American author and speaker said:

I am convinced—I know some of you will disagree and I understand why you disagree it is because of suffering bitterness and resentment—I am convinced that India is going to get independence very soon. Nothing can stop it—not even Indians can stop it.

This is not due to any sudden conversion on Britain's part. The British know they cannot stay here. If they can they will stay for another year or two. Great Britain's world position is forcing her to give up her Empire and reorient herself so that she can live without an Empire. It is indeed a difficult adjustment, I think it is the Labour Government's historic function to make that great adjustment.

Giving a second reason why he considered Indian Independence inevitable, he said:

There are three powers in the world. The United States is the strongest. Russia second and England third. Russia is a great problem country in the world. For various reasons Russia is expanding. I think the British have understood that a free India would react Russian encroachment because she would want to remain free whereas a Subject India, restless under British

domination, if England remained here for four or five years, would invite Russia in. There will be chaos and turmoil and England would be a lost country. It is only in these circumstances that America is interested in supporting the British. If we give a loan to Britain it is predicated that India must be opened for American business. England finds herself politically opposed by Russia and faces American economic rivalry. She herself is weak. She knows her tenure in India cannot last much longer. But the British have enough political sense. They have seen the end is coming. And rather than be thrown out, they will go out and try to keep some remnant of friendship and business relation with a free India.

MR KHER ON ANGLO INDIANS

In an address delivered at the annual general meeting of the Bombay Branch of the Anglo Indian Association, which was presided over by Mr S H Prater, M.L.A. (Bombay), Mr Kher advised Anglo-Indians that the sooner they gave up 'looking with one eye to Europe and with the other to India', the better it would be. He declared:

Trying to stand or run with one foot here and another elsewhere will not as our leaders have been saying with increasing vehemence help you hereafter. I would urge upon you to cease trying to be third rate imitations of the European and abandon dreaming of a home other than that where you were born and start striking roots seriously in the soil of India. Worth, not birth, will count henceforth in our mother country, and India has great need of your intelligence and abilities and services.

I want to suggest this reorientation and settling down not as the only course open to you but as the very best course. You have some special talents. You have been outstanding in certain fields of service. Those skills and capacities will always stand you in good stead. There is much need for your courage, your sense of duty, your managing ability, your cheerful outlook, your mechanical aptitude. There is much room for the employment of your great organising ability.

In the New India, these should enable you to score well. India as you know, has been and is most hospitable. It has become the home of many foreigners. You, too, can settle down and find evidence of your utility in the social economy of the country, make a place for yourselves.

India with characteristic warmth and broad-mindedness will welcome you and trust you as her own but only, he is remembered, if you treat her as your own and are not ashamed of her.

CARE TAKER GOVERNMENT

It has already been announced by the Viceroy and the Cabinet Mission that a temporary Care taker Government will be set up pending further negotiations with the parties says a communique. For this purpose, His Majesty the King has approved the appointment of the following as members of the Executive Council: Sir George Spence, Sir Eric Coates, Sir Robert Hutchings, Sir Eric Conran Smith, Sir Gurunath Bewoor together with the Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari and the Hon. Mr. A. A. Waugh, who are already temporary members of the Executive Council.

His Excellency Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander in Chief, will also continue to serve.

ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS

The portfolios have been distributed as follows:

Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck—War
Sir Gurunath Bewoor—Commerce and Commonwealth Relations

Sir Erick Coates—Finance

Sir Eric Conran Smith—War Transport
Railways Post and Air

Sir Robert Hutchings—Food and Agriculture

Sir Akbar Hydari—Labour Works, Mines and Powers, Information and Arts, and Health

Sir George Spence—Law and Education

Mr. A. A. Waugh—Home and Industries and Supplies

Since planning has now reached a stage at which it can be completed and implemented by the individual Departments concerned, the Governor General has decided to abolish Planning and Development as a separate Department. Co-ordination and progress of development will be done by the Co-ordination Committee of the Council.

JINNAH—VICEROY LETTERS

In the final letters written to Mr. M. A. Jinnah, the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy refute the suggestion that they have gone back on their word with regard to the formation of an Interim Government.

"Our course of action was determined by what had been laid down in paragraph 8 of the statement of June 16, and we had made it plain to you before your Working Committee meeting on June 26, that we proposed to follow this course," the letter adds.

The Viceroy also states that it is not proposed to postpone elections to the Constituent Assembly. These and other points are brought out in correspondence released between Mr. Jinnah and the Mission from June 19 to June 28.

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

It has been reported in the Press that the text of a Bengal Government communique requires every delegate to the Constituent Assembly to sign a declaration accepting Clause 19 of the Cabinet Delegation's Statement of May 16.

I hereby agree to this nomination and declare that I am willing to serve in the Constituent Assembly as a representative of the General or Muslim part of the Bengal Legislative Assembly for the purpose of framing a new constitution for India. I further declare that I have not been proposed as a representative of any part of the Legislative Assembly of any other province in India in the said Constituent Assembly.

Commenting on this Gandhi wrote that it grieved him to see that the Constituent Assembly was being killed by the underlings of the very people who had given it birth. He exculpated the authors of the State Paper unless he found that they had known that such instructions were issued.

VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE

The Vivekananda College at Madras was declared open on June 21. The only First Grade College to be run by the Ramakrishna Mission in India the institution is now located in the buildings of the Sri Ramakrishna Mission Students Home where it will function until its own buildings are ready. The College starts work on a modest scale and in comfortable, if not very extensive buildings. The preliminary work of admissions to the College and fitting up of laboratories and class rooms having been completed the College commenced regular work on July 1.

The inaugural function took place at the premises of the College before a large gathering of prominent citizens, educationists and students. Swami Kailasananda Head of the local Ramakrishna Math presided.

UNIVERSITY FOR RAYALASEEMA

That Government were contemplating the starting of a University for Rayalaseema with headquarters at Tirupathi was revealed by Mr K Koti Reddi Minister, addressing a public meeting at Kurnool.

The Minister in his speech stated that more colleges would be started in Rayalaseema districts if the Government put into effect the proposal to start a University for Rayalaseema. He appealed to the rich people to contribute liberally towards the starting of colleges. Regarding prohibition he stated that the Congress Ministry was committed to a policy of prohibition. Province wide prohibition would not be possible in the immediate future though it would be the ultimate objective.

INDIAN STUDENTS AT CAMBRIDGE

Indian students have achieved the distinction of topping the list this year in the Cambridge University final tripos examinations in Mathematics, Law and Economics. Mr K Sabapathy and Mr Subrata Roy Choudhury, both of Trinity College, obtained first class honours in Mathematics and Law respectively while Mr J J Patel (King's College) got a first-class in Economics. It is believed that there are very few precedents for such Indian success in each of these subjects in the Cambridge University. Messrs Sabapathy and Roy Choudhury have been selected for exhibition scholarship by the governing body of the Trinity College for their outstanding performance in the examinations.

TATA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Thirteen students from six Indian Universities have been awarded scholarships from the J N Tata Endowment for higher education abroad in the current year. Of these no less than eight will proceed to the United States while the rest will join institutions in Britain and Ireland.

Electrical, chemical and aeronautical engineering are the lines of study favoured by most of the scholars. Other subjects of study include nuclear physics, metallurgy, leather technology, statistics and town planning.

The names of the scholars are Messrs B T Shahani (Bombay), V S Hazurbazar (Benares Hindu University), M S Nadkarni (Bombay), S V Tiwari (Benares Hindu University), A Abdur Rashied (Madras), P R Sethna (Bombay), Peter Norton (Bombay), P K Bhattacharya (Calcutta), A K Agrawala (Benares Hindu University), P K Nigam (Nagpur), A S Joshi (Bombay), C S Chandrasekhara (Mysore), I Ammiraju (Benares Hindu University).

NEWSPAPERS RIGHT TO CRITICISE

The U S Supreme Court on June 3 unanimously ruled that newspapers have a right to criticise the judiciary at least in certain circumstances on the basis that freedom of the Press is an inherent right of a democratic society

The case involved was the conviction for contempt of court of the newspaper *Miami Herald* by the Dade (Florida) county circuit court, which imposed a 100 dollar fine on the paper itself and a 250 dollar fine on its associate editor John D Pennekamp. The conviction had been upheld by the Florida State Supreme Court but was unanimously set aside by the U S Supreme Court

The origin of the case was the publication of two editorials and one cartoon in the *Herald* in November, 1944 criticising the Dade county court for the conduct of criminal prosecutions. The citation for contempt stated that the newspaper had impugned the integrity of the court and the judges, while the defendants pleaded that the intent of the editorials and cartoon was solely to criticize Florida court procedures in connection with the current drive to eliminate gambling and other practices in Dade county

The U S Supreme Court majority opinion was written by Justice Stanley Reed, with three concurrences written by Justices Felix Frankfurter, Frank Murphy and Wiley Rutledge. The essence of the Supreme Court decision setting aside the conviction was that although the facts in the newspaper may not have been entirely

accurate the high court denied that there was any "clear and present danger" to the administration of justice and that as stated in Reed's opinion, "free discussion of the problems of society is a cardinal principle of Americanism—a principle which all are zealous to preserve"

Reed saw no immediate necessity "to close the door of permissible public comment. When that door is closed it closes all doors behind it."

In a concurring opinion, Frankfurter wrote that "without a free Press there can be no society," and he stated that a free Press is 'vital to democracy because its freedom gives it power'.

Murphy wrote that freedom of the Press "includes the right to criticize and disparage, even though the terms be vitriolic, scurrilous or erroneous." Rutledge wrote that 'there is perhaps no area of news more inaccurately reported factually, on the whole than legal news,' but pointed out that newspapermen are not lawyers and the law is "full of perplexities".

RETURN OF CONFISCATED PROPERTIES

The Government of Bombay has decided to restore to the owners the properties which were attached, sealed, or confiscated in connection with the individual civil disobedience movement of 1940-41.

Properties which were confiscated by an order of a court of law as a result of a conviction for some violent offences will not, however be returned.

It will be remembered that the Government recently announced its decision to restore the property confiscated in 1942.

INDIAN INSURANCE INSTITUTE

In his Presidential address at the sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the Indian Insurance Institute, Mr Sachin Bagchi touched on some of the important current problems of life insurance business. He deplored the destructive attitude of the Government of India in bringing in laws after laws to cripple the growth of Indian insurance and particularly referred to the Insurance (Second) Amendment Bill 1946 which he called a sinister piece of legislation intended to strike at the vitals of Indian insurance. He however welcomed the amendment of the Act which provides that the Superintendent need not necessarily be a qualified actuary. He was of the view that an actuary as such, could serve only in an advisory capacity and not as an executive or an administrator unless he had considerable practical knowledge of life insurance.

He regretted that the report of the Post war Planning Committee on Insurance had not been published and stated that he had been unable to understand the reason for keeping it secret. 'This disinclination to publish the report' said Mr Bagchi 'naturally arouses a suspicion that the recommendations of the Committee might have been given a burial away from public gaze to suit the smooth sailing of the pending Insurance (Second) Amendment Bill'. He strongly criticised the provision in the Insurance Amendment Bill for further reduction of commission of insurance agents and expressed the hope that all agents and field workers associations throughout India will launch a tremendous agitation against it to a success.

RETURN ON PREMIUM INCOME

Insurance companies were prominent among the big 'institutional' investors who realised tens of millions of gilt edged holdings when Mr Dalton announced the terms of the new 'tap' loan, writes the London Correspondent of *Capital*. Some very important implications have had to be deduced from its terms. A $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent issue with 18 21 years' life was obviously out of accord with prevailing market conditions, for medium dated issues giving a comparable yield were obtainable only at a premium involving capital loss on redemption. It is assumed that the Chancellor deliberately offered more generous terms than his cheap money policy seemed to have prepared for, in order partly to rebuff the speculators who were doing well out of the steady rise in prices and partly to be assured of a strong inflow of new money—which is not coming in at all well on small savings account. In fact, the response to the issue has been far more encouraging than has been accorded to any of the 'tap' issues of recent years.

The question arises however, whether the halt in the cheap money drive is merely temporary, or the limit of safety is considered to have been reached—for the policy was undoubtedly having inflationary effects on the Stock Exchange. If a period of stability is being established it will be possible to invest new premium income with the prospect of a reasonable return. Any further appreciation of the values of securities already held would really be superfluous.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE

Mr Herbert Morrison told the Imperial Press Conference delegates in London that the war had brought such changes in the financial and material resources of the Commonwealth and the Empire, that the post war structure of trade must necessarily be fundamentally different from what it was between the wars. He added "There can be no question of imperial preferences being given up. They will be examined as part of a wider commercial picture and in the bargaining which will take place any reductions which are suggested will have to be weighed against the advantages to the Commonwealth and the Empire, as well as to the world of countervailing reductions in trade barriers which are offered by other countries."

The goal of international trade should be better living for all the peoples of the world. If we succeed in doing this, I believe that in so many other connections we of the Commonwealth and the Empire can set a lead and an example to the world in a policy which, if fully carried out, will in due time banish hunger and want from this planet.

DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE WITH INDIA

It is stated that India and Canada have decided to exchange diplomatic relations. Exchange of High Commissioners which is understood to have been requested by the Canadian Government will result immediately on termination of the negotiations now underway at New Delhi. The Government of Ceylon has also decided to exchange diplomatic representatives with India.

STERLING BALANCES

The demand that the question of India's huge sterling balances now blocked in Britain should be amicably settled without further delay has been made by the influential British weekly *Week*. The agreement the journal says in regard to Indian sterling balances would play a decisive part on the future relation between Britain and India.

Week, well known for its inside official information gives the background picture of the whole situation and says: "When the Cabinet Mission left for India its advisers were frankly conscious that this issue must sooner or later play an important and possibly, in the long run, a decisive part in the arrangement. It was an essential part of the Mission's project that an arrangement should be made under which British military power would be retained in India—to protect the country against Bolshevism. But it was recognised that in so far as the plan depended upon the active co-operation of great capitalists and their political spokesmen the question of sterling balances would certainly be raised at some point."

FUTURE OF CARTELS

Delegations from eleven nations failed to agree on world trade cartels when the Commission on Commercial Policy met in Paris under the auspices of the International Chamber of Commerce. The French delegates said that cartels might be useful in planning schemes but the Americans thought all cartels an unmitigated evil. The British thought the agreements acceptable if compulsorily registered with some international trade organisation.

WOMEN AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The peers have again decided against admitting peeresses to their House reports the '*Cavalcade*'

No longer a member of the Conservative Party, Lord Cecil, scion of generations of Conservatives moved for their admission contending also that women should be eligible for peerages on the same terms as men

He further called for the creation of a number of life peers and urged the right of any Minister, on the motion of a Minister, to speak in a Lord's debate on any issue

Cecil's fellow nobles turned down all three proposals largely on the ground that if the House of Lords was to be reformed it had better be done "in toto" than piecemeal

Last peeresses' application for a seat was Lady Rhondda's in 1922 The Government left the Lords to decide, and its Committee of Privileges ruled against

WOMEN'S HELP DURING STRIKE

Women played an important part in cleaning the city of Ahmedabad during the recent strike During the six days' strike of the municipal sweepers, they not only swept their own streets, but removed the refuse in municipal trucks outside the city, "We are used to sweeping our own houses and now we have come forward to cleanse the city in an emergency," declared one of the girls sweeping a street corner

The Health authorities maintain that the city is kept in a better state of cleanliness by voluntary effort than before the strike

WOMEN SATYAGRAHIS

Dr Karsbal Goonam was sentenced to six months' hard labour at Durban on June 29 charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act Four months of the sentence was suspended for six months on condition of good behaviour The suspended sentence of 7 days hard labour, given on June 25 for a similar offence, was also enforced

The Magistrate, Mr I I Cohen, said, "To day women claim equality with men You asked for the maximum sentence, but I am old fashioned enough to feel that I cannot treat woman the same as man I may be wrong— it may be weakness,—but I am going to suspend your sentence "

' Dr. Goonam, in a statement, before she was sentenced, condemned the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act and stated "I have not the slightest intention of committing a breach of the ordinary laws of the country, but this Act spells disaster, ruin and serfdom to our people who contributed greatly to the prosperity of this country "

Continuing Dr Goonam said "South Africa, we are reminded frequently, is a democratic country, yet there are 9 000 000 people who have no stake in the Government of the country You, sir, are a symbol of law I, too am a symbol at the present moment—symbol of humanity resolved never to submit to the law of segregation—the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act Future historians of South Africa will say that the Rulers of this land failed because they could not adapt themselves to a changing world There will be no peace on earth until equality among different races, including the Jews is established and colour as the measure of civilisation is abandoned "

EMPIRE PRESS UNION

The Imperial Press Conference in private session discussed draft proposals for a change in its original charter governing membership and objects of the organisation. The suggestion has been made that membership should be denied to newspapers that 'are hostile to the continued existence of the British Empire' and that the primary object of the association should be promotion of Empire solidarity and only secondarily to promote the commercial prosperity of its member newspapers.

Mr S Sadanand said that in the accepted sense of Imperialism Indian newspapers were anti British and if their political outlook on their country's independence contravened the Union's constitution they ought to be told so. If this were the case, then he and others had joined under a misapprehension because they were assured their membership was desired in an integral organisation having a common interest quite apart from politics.

A memorandum on the subject was referred to the drafting committee for report.

U P LEGISLATION IN AID OF JOURNALISTS

The U P Government has decided to march ahead of other provinces by fixing up hours of work, wages and conditions of work of the working journalists.

It is proposed to bring forward legislation on the lines similar to that in existence in the U S A to standardise conditions of work in newspaper offices.

THE LOT OF INDIAN JOURNALISTS

Improved conditions in the Indian news paper world were emphasised by Mr Sadanand, editor of the *Free Press Journal* at a function arranged by the Indian Journalists Association in London on June 25. "Ten years ago I would not have recommended any young man to take up journalism," said Mr Sadanand, "but things are different to day. Journalism in India has reached a stage where it can afford to pay salaries equal to any other profession."

INDIANS HONOURED AT OXFORD

Oxford University honoured Lord Louis Mounbatten, former Supreme Commander, South East Asia; Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council; Mahk. Sir Khizar Hayat Khan Tiwana, Prime Minister of the Punjab; the British Prime Minister Mr Clement Attlee and Mrs Winston Churchill who marched in procession through the streets to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Laws on June 26. The former Prime Minister Mr Churchill was also present to see his wife receive the same degree he already holds.

Introducing Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, the University Public Orator described him as a pattern of versatility and many-sided accomplishments—more than all perhaps an expert in economics and industrial history. He was a real world-citizen.

The Orator said the Prime Minister of the Punjab had made his mark as a soldier. In civil life thanks to his power of debate and wide range of knowledge of foreign affairs he had become Premier of his Province.

MR M V RAJGOPAL

Mr M V Rajgopal, the newly elected President of the Cambridge Majlis who represented the Cambridge University at the inter-Varsity debate held in Durham, was adjudged the best speaker and awarded a medal for proficiency in public speaking. Mr Rajgopal who is the first Indian to speak in the debate was the only representative of the Cambridge University and the subject of his speech was "India and the U.N.O."

MOSLEY SUBSIDISED BY MUSSOLINI

A statement that Sir Oswald Mosley, Leader of the former British Union of Fascists received money from Mussolini was read to the Commons by the Home Secretary, Mr. Chuter Ede.

He was quoting extracts from letters by Count Grandi, former Italian Ambassador in London to Mussolini.

The letters had been found among Mussolini's papers.

JAMINI ROY'S PAINTINGS

At the age of 34, Jamini Roy was a successful portrait painter in Calcutta. Western trained along conventional lines, at the Government School of Art and with an assured future. Quite suddenly he realised and abandoned his wealthy clientele to learn all over again the art of which he was already master, writes Mr Harcourt Robertson.

He took as his teacher a humble craftsman of his own village of Beliatore in Bengal. Working with most intractable materials—rock dust mixed with tamarind juice for colours and leaped khaddar for canvas—he strove during year after year of bitter poverty to evolve an art that should be rooted in the poverty—stricky soil of India and yet able to take its place beside the most sophisticated products of Western civilisation.

India ignored alike his aims and his attempts—but the cognoscenti of London 24 years after that brave initial break, have acclaimed the sacrifice and its fruits. The recent exhibition at the Arcade Gallery in New Bond Street under the auspices of the Royal India Society has been, the Director of the Gallery tells me, very successful and a number of his pictures have been sold.

COLOUR PICTURES BY RADIO

The transmission of coloured pictures by radio half way round the world and the successful use of international photo telegraphy, in police work where among the important developments revealed by the Cable and Wireless Ltd at a Press demonstration in London says the *Daily Telegraph*.

Photographs in four colours transmitted by radio to Melbourne and Cape Town from London were shown. It was stated that as a result of photo telegraphy in a recent investigation Scotland Yard had got their man. The company operates 147 wireless circuits and more than 200 stations in 70 countries. Thirteen phototelegraphy stations are in operation between Melbourne and Buenos Aires.

INDIA AT THE LORDS

Although India lost the first Test match against England by 10 wickets, she put up a much better fight than the scores would suggest and the tourists in getting 275 in the second innings—their highest ever against England—can look back upon the game with considerable satisfaction and pride—writes Learie Constantine Reuters commentator.

The Nawab of Pataudi told me after the match. We lost to a team that took its opportunities. It is very debatable whether India would not have been better off losing the loss on this occasion because the wicket must have been abnormal in some respects when the two sides found themselves in difficulty on the first day.

It should be noted that the whole of the wicket was covered prior to the start and so it might have sweated.

India's ground fielding was at least equal not superior to England and we feel very proud of our work in that department. It was a pity our catching did not come up to the same standard.

WORLD WATER SPEED RECORD

A jet engine will be used for the first time in a boat when Sir Malcolm Campbell the famous racing motorist, makes a further attempt this autumn to beat his own world water speed record. He will probably make the attempt in the English Lake District.

After establishing motor car speed records, Sir Malcolm Campbell attacked the water speed record and in August 1939, he achieved a speed of 141 miles per hour on Coniston Water Lake in Lancashire. He then beat his own previous record established on a lake near Lucerne, in Switzerland by nearly 11 miles per hour.

Sir Malcolm who is now nearly 60, said 'I intend to use the same hull but this time she will be powered by a jet engine—the first time that a power unit of this kind has even been fitted to a boat. It will replace two 1,800 h.p. Rolls Royce engines.'

GERM WARFARE

The United States has a weapon for germ warfare so powerful that one ounce would wipe out almost the entire population of North and South America combined, writes a medical writer in an article in the *Science Service*

"This is Botulinus Toxin until recently known chiefly as the cause of particularly dangerous food poisoning against which home and commercial canners guard their canned vegetables and meats"

"The poison is developed in its pure form by our biological warfare experts at Camp De Thrick, Maryland. The figures given in a scientific report of the method of purifying the toxin show that one ounce of the pure white needle shaped crystals could kill 200,000,000 men each weighing 165 pounds

"For women and children the killing dose probably would be smaller. These are the facts behind the undetailed revelations of the Naval biological warfare researchers made in Congress. This deadly stuff is believed to be the most poisonous known substance per unit of weight which is only one of the weapons of germ warfare forged by our scientists during the war"

NEW JET WEAPON

Details of a fantastic new jet weapon which will work on the principle of a squeezed toothpaste tube were disclosed by Maj Gen Evatt S. Hughes of the United States Army

"Although still in research stages this weapon is expected to provide the answer to atomic rockets or armoured aircraft loaded with atomic weapon. It would be able to emit a jet of molten metal with an initial velocity of five miles per second which it would be impossible to reflect. Gen Hughes said

The jet would go right through an armour plate and be able to punch an atomic rocket right on the nose"

CINEMA ADVERTISEMENTS

Think for a moment of cinema notices, which indulge in a hideous and reckless use of superlatives. A film that we could scarcely see without yawning and from which we may hurriedly depart, is advertised with a profusion of language and as indecency of self praise that is nothing short of pitiful, says John G. Vane in *The Nineteenth Century*. Thus the public, on being assured that a film is 'glorious', 'thrilling', 'stunning', 'breath taking', that it shows 'X' and 'Y' at the height of their dramatic power or in the glory of all their glamour will wonder if the film would prove interesting. Some of the cinema critics, in passing, are fearlessly truthful and incisive. The thunder of the cinema advertisement remains if possible to drown the critics. Even small boys and girls, in spite of their love for 'movies', take all the superlative advertisements to mean merely that the film is worth seeing. Clearly, language is beginning to lose some of its significance and, equally clearly a recognised standard of untruthfulness is gaining wide acceptance

WHEN FILM GOING IS EXCESSIVE

People who go to the cinema three or four times a week are corrupting their minds and their brains are being turned into porridge, said Bishop Flynn, of Lancaster, at Preston Catholic College

His Lordship said that because he cannot go to the cinema he does not begrudge others going to escape realities for a few hours. But, he said, lives cannot be built up on that

If a boy enjoyed the works of Shakespeare, Scott and other great authors, can he endure the celluloid heroines and heroes presented to him in the cinema?

His Lordship supported the appeal of Fr Bernad Malone, S. J. headmaster, who asked parents to be careful of their sons' leisure time

RULES FOR PEDESTRIANS

It is better to be late in this world than early in the next. Or, give your life for a noble cause and never die needlessly, warns the *Calcutta Municipal Gazette*

Look to the right and cross the first half of the road

Look to the left and then cross the other half

Use the foot path the road is meant for the cars

Do not make a crowd on the road and avoid all gossip there

On roads without foot paths walk at the extreme right facing the oncoming traffic

Use the pedestrians walk while crossing the road, the driver expects you there

Do not hurry on the road stand still when caught in traffic

Never cross roads diagonally cross only at right angles Also cross at intersections and not between blocks where traffic is fastest

Never step on to the road from behind or in front of a stationary vehicle

Look both ways before getting down from a tramcar or a bus

Never steal rides on the axles or drawbars of vehicles You may be killed if you fall off under wheels of a following car

Never throw fruit skins on the road or foot paths Move them out of harm's way with your feet or stick if you see them there

Carry an umbrella upright and well above the head Carry a closed umbrella like a walking stick

On dusty roads wait till the dust settles after a car has passed

Take more precautions during the monsoon the roads are slippery then

Always help the old the infirm and the very young to cross the streets

Look Listen and Walk Obey the traffic signals and not meditate upon your domestic office work while on the road

INDIA GOVERNMENT'S 20 YEAR PLAN

The Government of India have decided to establish a national aircraft industry in India with a twenty year target of complete self sufficiency, for building aircraft needed for the Royal Indian Air Force as well as for civil aviation

The decision has been based on the recommendation of the United Kingdom Aircraft Mission which was invited to India in March last

It is learnt that production will initially be started in the Bangalore factory. An expenditure of Rs 13 lakhs will have to be met for enabling the factory to meet the requirements of plans etc for the next five years excluding the capital expenditure to be incurred on the purchase of engines

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT FACTORY

The Mysore Government have been allowed a sum of Rs 12½ lakhs by the Government of India for the war period both as dividend and compensation on the sum of Rs 25 lakhs which the Mysore Government have invested on the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, Bangalore according to a statement made by Mr B S Raghavendra Rao Financial Secretary, Mysore Government

KARACHI AIR BASE

The well known marine air base in the Karachi harbour will soon be abandoned for civil air operations and civil flying boats and seaplanes will not land there but will operate instead from Korangi Creek. The shift over is due to the inadequacy of the present air base for the increased volume of air traffic as well as the inconvenience it causes to the shipping activities in the Port

WAR TIME AIRFIELDS IN INDIA

It is learnt that the U S War Department has agreed to return to India the remainder of the wartime airfields thus paving the way for an early conclusion of an interim Indo American agreement to permit the Pan American Airways and Trans World Airlines to start service soon

INSTITUTE OF ART IN INDUSTRY

The Indian Institute of Art in Industry registered last year after five years of exploratory work, is making considerable headway. The Institute's new President is Sir Homi Mody.

In the beginning, it had 33 industrial members, each subscribing the full membership fee of Rs 1,000 per annum. Its membership has now risen to 73 and it is hoped that within a year 200 firms will join the Institute as full members. The Institute is expected to play an important role both in India's industrial development and in giving aid to the country's artisans.

EXPANSION OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY

In reply to the representation made by the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, the Commerce Department of the Government of India have intimated the Chamber that the Government of India passed orders allocating the total number of additional spindles which were to be allotted for the expansion of the textile industry in each Province and State. In pursuance of this the Provincial and State Governments were asked to select those mills to which the additional spindles were to be allocated.

It will be appreciated that there is no possibility of import licences being obtained for new mills or extensions of existing mills unless the applicants have been recommended by the Provincial or State Government concerned states the communication.

HOUSES IN 24 HOURS

A machine has been designed in America that will build a house in 24 hours.

The machine, which will be manufactured soon in Texas, consists of a giant steel frame the size of the intended house. It is run to the site on twelve foot wheels, placed in position, and concrete is then poured into the form. In 24 hours the frame is lifted away leaving a two bedroom house complete except for incidentals. Its main living room measures eighteen feet by eleven feet. The price has not yet been disclosed.

POWER IMPLIMENTS FOR AGRICULTURE

Under the very shadow of a country wide famine a new basic industry which will revolutionise agriculture and go a long way to step up India's agricultural production, is springing up. It is the manufacture of power operated agricultural implements, which hitherto has not been undertaken in this country.

A Bombay firm of agricultural engineers have undertaken to organise the manufacture of tractor drawn moldboard ploughs, disc ploughs, disc harrows and cultivators and supply them in time for useful work during 1947.

The Government of India have placed with this firm an order for 1,250 of these agricultural units of which delivery will start from the middle of February, 1947. The Government have also agreed to lease to the firm the Poona Aircraft Factory which was built during the war years and which is equipped with the latest production machinery so as to enable them to start work immediately on this job. A permanent factory is being built with a capital of one crore of rupees.

DAIRY FARMS FOR BOMBAY

The Government of Bombay propose to establish a series of modern well equipped dairy farms which will serve to double the city's milk supply. A beginning has been made with acquisition of 1,200 acres of land near the city. It is proposed to have a model dairy farm with a thousand buffaloes and a productive capacity of ten thousand pounds of milk per day. The scheme is estimated to cost of Rs 40 lakhs. It is conceived on a really big scale and when completed will considerably improve the milk supply of the city.

AGRICULTURAL MISSION TO PALESTINE

A delegation of Indian agricultural experts is expected to reach Palestine shortly. The mission, has planned to study collective farming in Palestine in view of resettlement schemes for demobilised Indian troops.

IMPORT OF OUTSIDE LABOUR

In the course of an interview, Khan Bahadur Mahomed Ismail, District Collector, Tanjore said that he was not in favour of mirasdars importing outside labour to replace local labourers. If the mirasdars sought to do so without any valid reason it would militate against the spirit of the 'Mannargudi' Agreement entered into between the leading mirasdars and representatives of agricultural labour on December 25 1944.

The Mannargudi Agreement the Collector added was a compromise between two contending parties in the presence of the District Collector and the District Superintendent of Police. The agreement had worked well for a couple of years without any hitch. A special officer was also appointed to implement the terms of the agreement. And therefore he could not see why the mirasdars should try to by pass the agreement by picking holes in it—an agreement which received the assent of both the parties. The Collector added that import of outside labour to replace local labour was permitted only if the circumstances of the case warranted it.

INDIAN WORKERS' CONDITION

The Trade Union organ *Trade* in an article on the condition of workers in India stated 'Colonial dependence of India has a special effect on the methods of exploiting the working class and has brought about the generally recognised fact that the wages of Indian workers are the lowest in the world.

The article continued 'Workers' miserable wages are lowered still more by numerous fines imposed by employers and high rent for dwellings. Recent strikes which arose as a protest against the actions of the police and troops who were beating up the people and shooting people participating in demonstrations are also a sign of solidarity with the striking sailors. Famine is sharpening still more a tense political situation.

IND THIS INDICATE

A Report issued by the Labour Investigation Committee of the Government of India on the conditions among rickshaw pullers in this country closes with the remark that the consensus of opinion is that there should be planning for the abolition of this type of conveyance aptly described in the report as an offence against human dignity. This says the *Mail* applies with even greater force to hand carts pulled by hand and pushed by hand though they were not included in the Committee of inquiry.

It is good to see from Dr Mukhthar's report that people generally desire to see rickshaws withdrawn from our roads in spite of the fact that in recent years there has been a great increase in the number of these vehicles. The principal reasons given in the report for the increase are the soaring prices of horses and carts and the reduction in motor transport on account of petrol rationing, but in Madras the most operative cause was the liberality of members of the armed forces who made rickshaw pulling extremely lucrative. One way of eliminating rickshaws and hand carts observes the *Mail*, would be to make available to the people cheap low h.p. motor taxis and more lorries. This should be encouraged in all possible ways by Governments and local bodies so that a cruel and degrading form of labour may be ended.

LATE BOMBAY MAGNATES' MUNITIFICENCE

Two munificent donations have been made in memory of the late Govindram Seksaria who died in Bombay recently.

One of these donations is of a sum of Rs 5 lakhs for an engineering college in Greater Bombay, and it has been made to the Government of Bombay, through the Hon. Mr Mangaldas Pakvasa, President of the Bombay Legislative Council.

The other donation of one lakh of rupees is to the Hindustan Scout Association for a training centre in Bombay to be named after the late Govindram Seksaria.

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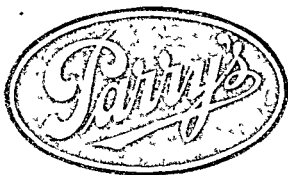
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In the past six years we have supplied to Government over 432,000,000 yards of cloth. This represents a production for war purposes of 41,000 miles of cloth per year—enough cloth to go once round the world every 7 to 8 months!

The Buckingham & Carnatic Mills in 1900 were the original pioneers of Khaki cloth in India, and always shoulder a heavy task in time of war.



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Our production today is over 6,000,000 yards monthly, but railway difficulties prevent free distribution to some distant centres.

Shortage of chemicals and dyestuffs prevents the manufacture of many pre-war favourites, and also of a wide range of colours. We hope this is temporary.

In the meantime our huge output of essential cloth gives you durable quality in good utility materials.

Long before price control was introduced by Government we kept our prices low. Our material still remains by far the best value for money at controlled prices.

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People of India have another victory to win—against the food shortage. Your individual fight is not only against 'waste' but you must also produce more food if you can. Your garden or any piece of land, large or small, can easily grow vegetables if you try. Grow food instead of flowers. Food must be grown on any land where it will grow.

APPROXIMATE YIELD OF VEGETABLES PER 1000 SQ. FT.

Beans	100 lbs	Peas	300 lbs
Radish	200 lbs	Potato	300 lbs
Turnip	200 lbs	Lady's Finger	100 lbs
Tomatoes	200 lbs	Cabbage	300 lbs
Onions			300 lbs

Many of these and other vegetables can be grown in the town gardens according to the season.

Potato	Brinjals	Luffa
Sweet Potato	Peas	Cucumber
Radish	Turnips	Cabbage
Carrots	Spinach	Cauliflower
Onions	Tomatoes	Beans
		Lady's Finger
Gourds of all type		

MAIZE, a quick growing and useful cereal, can be easily grown in town gardens. Plant 'early' maize.

IN EVERY WAY YOU CAN

*Grow more
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HOW TO PREPARE YOUR SOIL

1. Pull out tall weeds and stubble



2. Break up the soil and turn it over.

3. Spread manure and fork it in.



4. Dig the soil over once more

5. Prepare beds of convenient size



6. Level and reduce the surface soil to fine condition



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Covering as it does all the news of the last week in a catchy story form holding nothing back it is your handy compendium of men and events of the hour.

OPINIONS

C. Rajagopalachari : A good weekly giving the news and presenting truthful objective pictures of situations is going from time to time ranks high in the instruments of public education. I wish the Saturday Mail every success. It is quite possible to be bright without losing one's accuracy or dignity of style. I am glad the Saturday Mail is striving in this field with considerable success and I wish it every success.

S. A. Bhave, President, All India Newspaper Editors' Conference : I have made a point of reading your weekly when in Bombay. In the best period of one year the Mail has made a place for itself in Indian Journalism and I wish that in the years to come it will become an increasingly useful and popular journal and a powerful force for promoting national progress.

Gopinath Bardoloi : It has indeed been a pleasure to me and some friends to read the Saturday Mail. The setup and the manner of treatment of topical subjects have really been very good and I have not the least doubt that you are having an increased number of customers everyday. I have also no doubt that your journal will be considered as an organ giving expression to real viewpoints of the Indian National Congress.

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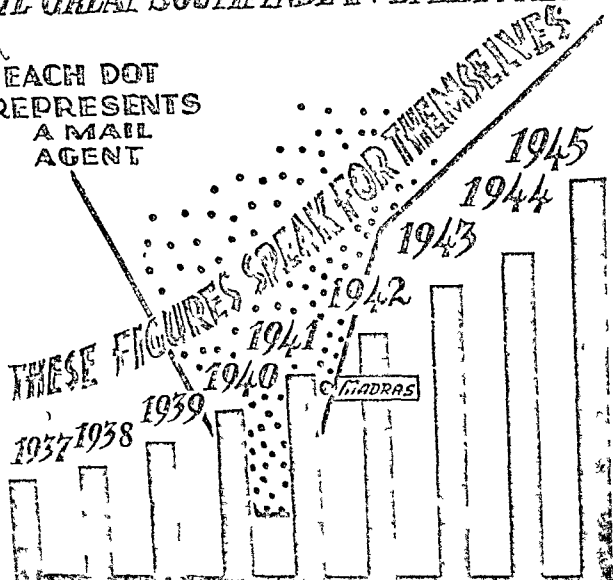
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He is the only Astrologer in India who first predicted the Allies Victory in the present world war on 3rd Sept 1939 within 4 hours the very day of the declaration of State for India, the Viceroy and the Governor of Bengal and who is also the consulting Astrologer of the Eighteen Ruling Chiefs of India.

It is well known that the Astrological predictions of this great scholar, his wonderful methods of redressing the pernicious influence of evil stars, his power to bring success in complicated law suits and also to cure incurable diseases are really uncommon.

Many Ruling Chiefs of India, High Court Judges, Commissioners of Divisions, Advocate Generals, Nawabs, Rajas, Maharajas etc., and also many reputed personalities of the world (of England, America, Australia, Africa, China, Japan, etc.) have given many unsolicited testimonials of the great Pandit's wonderful powers.

A FEW OPINIONS AMONGST THOUSANDS

His Highness The Maharaja of Athgarh says — "I have been astonished at the superhuman power of Panditji. He is a great Tantrik. Her Highness The Dowager 6th Maharani Sahab of Tripura State says — "I am feeling wonder at the marvellous Tantrik work and excellent efficacy of his Kavachas. He is no doubt a great personage with marvellous power. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherji, Kt., says — "The wonderful power of calculation and talent of Sirman Ramesh Chandra is the only possible outcome of a great father to a like son." The Hon'ble Maharaja of Santosh & Ex-President of the Bengal Legislative Council, Sir Manmatha Nath Roy Choudhury Kt., says — "On seeing my son his prophecy about my future is true to words. He is really a great Astrologer with extraordinary power." The Honourable Justice Mr B K Roy of Patna High Court says — "At a glance on me, he began to disclose my mental thoughts and he predicted marvellously many things. He is really a great personage with super natural power." The Hon'ble Minister, Govt of Bengal, Raja Prasanna Deb Raikot says — "The wonderful power of calculation and Tantrik activities of Panditji on several occasions have struck me with greatest astonishment. Really he is unique in his line." The Hon'ble Justice Mr. S M Das, of Koorajar State High Court, says — "Panditji has bestowed the life of my dead son. I have never seen in my life such a great Tantrik Yogi." Mr J A Lawrence, Osaka, Japan, writes — "I was getting good results from your Kavacha and all my family were passing a different life since I started wearing. Mr Andre Tempe, 2724, Popular Ave, Chicago, Illinois, U. S. America — "I have purchased from you several Kavachas on two or three different occasions. They all proved satisfactory." Mrs F W Gillespie, Detroit Mich, U S America — "I am wearing your special Dhanada Talisman and so far my luck has been with me a great deal better than in the past." Mr K Luckpaul, Shanghai, China — "Everything you foretold in writing is taking place with surprising exactness." Mr Issac Mumi Eita, Govt Clerk & Interpreter in Deshang, West Africa — "I had ordered some Talismans from you that had rendered me wonderful service." Mr B J Fernando Proctor, S. C., & Notary Public, Colombo, Ceylon — "I got marvellous effects from your Kavachas. I have had transactions with you almost every year for the last 20 years for about Rupees three thousand." Etc etc and many others.

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BAGALANUKHI KAVACHA—To overcome enemies it is unique. The wearer gets promotion in services and succeeds in pleasing higher officials. In winning in civil or criminal suits it is unparalleled. This is also a preventive to any accident or danger. Price Rs 9-2 Special and capable of giving immediate effects Rs 34-2. (The Bhowal Kumar, winner of the Sensational Bhowal Case wore this Kavacha)

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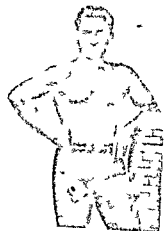
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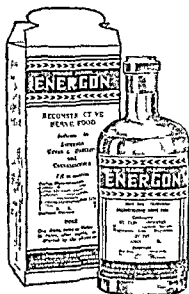
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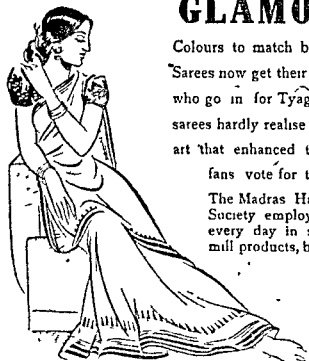
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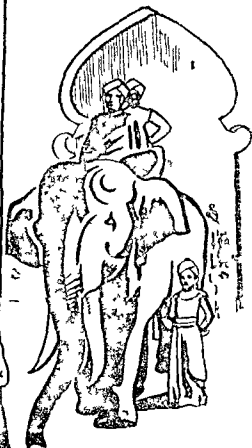
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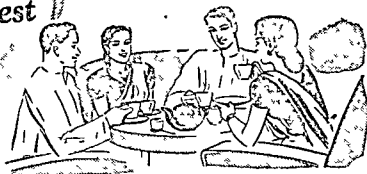
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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AUGUST 1946

[No. 8.]

Why the Indian Struggle in Ceylon?

By ST NIHAL SINGH

NEVER in living memory have our people in Ceylon stood up so stoutly—so stubbornly—so solidly—in defence of their rights as now. The scale upon which they have revolted against political subservience is as remarkable as the will power they have put into the struggle to secure justice for themselves and their progeny. The element in Ceylon's polity rallied against our people there must be aghast at these manifestations.

For stealing a march upon Indians no better time could have been chosen. The Hindu—Muslim clash was at the climactic in the Motherland. Thought was being concentrated upon the Indo British negotiations. Nationalist energy was directed towards preventing the disintegration of our country.

Administration was in a state of coma verging upon collapse. Even Britons who only yesterday, had bragged about the efficiency of the services in which they predominated made not the least effort to hide their misgivings. Some of them gave expression to their fears of approaching paralysis. They differed in respect of the causes, but not in respect of the threatened breakdown of executive machinery.

This must have appeared to the element in Ceylon determined to keep the Indians

there in a depressed political condition to be the psychological moment for action. It would pass unnoticed in India. If, perchance, it were noticed, there was no likelihood of any strong counter move.

The action decided upon would have done credit to the shrewdest strategist. It could be masked. While it would differentiate against Indians openly and unmistakably, it could be represented as a measure of beneficence for the "permanent population."

A parcel of land an hour's motor run from Colombo was selected for the manoeuvre. Known as Knavesmire, it consisted of 800 odd acres. Nearly all of it was planted to tea and rubber. In the warm, moist climate of the valley watered by the beautiful sacred stream that is locally called the Kelaniganga the latex yielding tree thrives. So did the bush that bears the leaves which when properly treated, produces a beverage that exhilarates but does not intoxicate. The British company that owned and operated it made a good thing out of their investment. Their dividends from it had gone as high as 40 per cent in one year, and usually ranged from ten to twenty five per cent even in dull times. They could however, be paid out of the Government coffers,

bulging with war induced balances, a sum that they would find irresistible

Once bought, the estate would be cut up into plots. These plots would be passed on to the landless villagers on terms they would find easy and attractive. Becoming prosperous by putting the newly acquired holding under food crops these peasant appropriators would send the authors of the project back to the legislature. In this period of acute shortages glory was sure to redound to the authors of the scheme for their efforts to stimulate grain production in place of luxury crops.

Under this cover of social service the politicians made sure that they would humiliate the Indians in their midst. More than this. The workers would be forced out of the estate probably forced out of the island. In their misery they might raise a howl. Who was there, however, to heed that howl?

India was, for the time being deaf to all intents and purposes. Even when such had not been the case the outcry from Ceylon Indians had evoked no full blooded response.

Despite all these careful calculations, the strategy failed. The planners were out on their reckoning in one particular. They had assessed the estate workers and their families as worms.

Indians they thought would no doubt whimper. They would, however submit to the inevitable—not the inevitable ordained by the Lord God but ordained by them—THEM—in the ascendant in the State Council in Colombo. What happened to them after they peacefully walked away from the estate, with bag and baggage

was no concern of these mighty ones. Let them clear out of the island altogether. Ceylon would be all the happier for being rid of them.

The unexpected happened. The worms turned. They refused to budge from their hearths and homes pitifully humble though their hearths and homes were. Persuasion failed to move them. So did threats. Even the menace of starvation proved ineffective.

While the strategists were moving the machinery of the law to evict these Indian workers many of whom had been employed on the Knavesmire estate for a generation or more, a miracle happened. In sympathy with them, fellow Indians in the valley struck work. Even some Sinhalese, for whose express benefit the anti Indian action was alleged to have been taken, also went on a sympathetic strike.

In a few days the strike spilled over the Kelani Valley. It spread to the 'up country' district of Hatton. The Indians labouring in the tea estates there might be unlettered. They knew however, what was being attempted. Men and women from the Motherland were being cruelly differentiated against. They were being deprived of their means of livelihood. This through no fault of their own.

The Indian workers on the tea plantations in the Hatton district too, were being differentiated against. Every device that ingenuity could invent was being employed to keep as many of them as possible politically helpless. They were deemed by their masters powerfully represented in the State Council at Colombo to be fit only to toil like beasts of burden. They were made to live isolated in the estate lines and

had to be content with such wages as they earned with the sweat of the brow. Participation in the affairs of the state were not for the likes of them.

Besides, what would happen to the "permanent population" if the bulk of the Indian adults were to be given the vote? The "up country" districts were sparsely populated. Planting could not be carried on there without the Indians. The cry was nevertheless raised that "the coolie vote" would "swamp" the Sinhalese.

JUSTICE is clearly on the side of the Indians who are in open revolt against discrimination. They are within their right in demanding the vote upon terms that they could accept with dignity.

The vote has been the issue of issues since 1927, when the differentiation was first introduced. It is so in this crisis. Everything else, compared with it, is of secondary significance. Given the franchise, Ceylon Indians would be able to deal with all the difficulties and remove all the handicaps—to protect their economic rights and to ensure to themselves social justice.

In this fight the Ceylon Indians have every right to expect support from us in India. This support they have not had in the past in anything like the measure in which they so richly deserved it—needed it so desperately. Not in a sustained manner in any case.

Only when some grave injustice rouses our people in Sri Lanka to engage in a spirited struggle, as they are doing now, does the Indo-Ceylon issue receive any serious attention from Indians at home. The moment the flame of resentment subsides there, as every such flame inevitably must in time, the interest wanes. The wrongs remain unrighted. Passions smoulder till another spark sets them ablaze again.

The lack of sustained interest upon our part in the Indian struggles in the island, just under our noses, is of course not due to indifference. That I must hasten to add

The urgencies of the internal situation in the Motherland absorbed all our attention—sop up all our energies.

We must, however, realize the gravity of the situation as it exists in Ceylon to day. The Council of State in Colombo is under orders of extinction. In its place is to be set up a Parliament.

That Parliament will not, of course, be a sovereign assembly, as the legislature in London or Ottawa or Canberra. It will lack the competence to deal with the most vital of subjects—Defence and External Affairs. Its powers even to manage internal affairs are also to be hedged about in various ways—some of which will be visible only when the new Constitution is implemented and in actual working order.

Despite these limitations, the legislators of to-morrow in Ceylon will have powers far in excess of those they now enjoy. Under the forthcoming dispensation they will have competence to deal with matters pertaining to Indians and India that the representatives of the "permanent population" have never enjoyed before. This fact is particularly worthy of being noted.

The only protection that our people in Ceylon can in reality, have in future is the protection that the vote gives. All else is moonshine. Even if reliance could be placed upon adventitious aid, such as intervention upon the part of some authority imposed from London or Colombo, the placing of reliance upon such extrinsic aid is not suited to Indian dignity.

From the practical as well as the ethical point of view it is therefore, incumbent upon us in India to give our people there all the backing in our power to prevent political discrimination against them at this hour when the electoral registers must be in process of revision. Had that hour not been filled with peril, the revolt in the Kelani Valley and the Hatton district would not have taken place in so intense a form and upon so large a scale. The time for action by us is, therefore, NOW.

THE ATOMIC TEST

BY DR S K MAITRA

Benares Hindu University

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THE most sensational event of this month is unquestionably the atomic test carried out a few days ago by the United States in Bikini Atoll* in the Pacific Ocean. While many of the dire consequences that were anticipated by some of the scientists, such as that 'the entire oceans of the world would be converted into a gigantic atom bomb' which would eventually "turn the world into a dead planet" have fortunately not materialized, the spirit behind the atomic test that spirit which has produced the atomic bomb and which wants to dominate the world by sheer brute force is a most dangerous one which threatens the very existence of the human race. In what follows, I shall briefly record the thoughts that occur to a lay mind as it reflects upon the implications of this colossal manifestation of brute force which the progress of science has made it possible for man to acquire.

To my mind the atomic bomb is a symbol. It is a symbol of one type of civilization the type, namely, which is dominated by science. It stands for all that this civilization signifies its outlook upon life, its world-view. It is useless,

therefore, to fight against the atomic bomb. If the atomic bomb is outlawed, a more dreadful weapon of destruction will come in its place. The fight will therefore have to be directed against the world view which is at the back of the atomic bomb.

For this reason I do not think that any useful purpose will be served by the various methods that have been suggested for the control of the atomic bomb. What is important is not the control of the atomic bomb, but the control of the spirit that is behind it. So long as that spirit remains what it is, it is useless to try to control its outward expression. We have therefore to probe into the causes which have led to the growth of the spirit which is behind the atom bomb.

The chief of these causes—in fact, what we may call *the* cause of the growth of this spirit—is a lack of a proper sense of values. Due to the tremendous advance which science has made during the last few centuries what we have learnt to value most is the acquisition of material resources and the power which such acquisition has brought with it. This power is employed not for securing better understanding between man and man, between nation and nation, but for subjugating nations which are less fortunate in the matter of material resources. The result of this is imperialism which is perhaps the greatest curse of the present age, as it means the reduction of millions and millions of

*The atom bomb test was carried out on July 1, at Bikini Atoll. Since then there has been a second test under Bikini waters. [Ed. I.F.]

†This was in fact what was predicted by Robert Serenault Raftery a 65 year old scientist who wrote to President Truman calling his attention to what he deemed a flaw in the atom bomb scientists' calculations (1/12/46). *Amrit Bazar Patrika*, Northern India Edition dated 1st July 1946.

human beings to a subhuman condition* Imperialism typifies the steady loss of values which has been going on for the last few centuries. It presents this loss in its most acute form, for it obliterates the greatest of all values, the value of human personality, by treating it as a mere means, as a thing to be exploited for the sake of material gain.

This is the ideology against which we have to fight if the world is to be made safe for mankind. In the Kathopanishad this ideology is called the standpoint of *preyas*, and the ideology which is opposed to it, the standpoint of *sreyas*. The struggle is between *sreyas* and *preyas*, and in the triumph of *sreyas* over *preyas* lies the hope of mankind. In the Mahabharata, in the Santiparvan, in the beautiful words which Sahadeva addresses to his eldest brother, Yudhisthira, when the latter is seized with terrible despair at the loss of his kinsmen in the battle of Kurukshetra the contrasted ideologies are described as being those of 'mama' (mine) and 'na mama' (not mine) and it is said that the first ideology spells death and the second immortality. 'Mama' symbolizes possession, love of power, aggression, aggrandisement, whereas 'na mama' means detachment, disinterestedness, indifference to power and to material gain, in a word, spirituality.

Tagore in his play *Red Oleanders* has described the crisis of the present age as being due to the attempt of a purely materialistic civilization to crush personality. Nandini, the heroine of the play, represents concrete personality, and there is ranged against her the abstraction called industrial

civilization, represented by the King. The King is described as a Voice, for he is nothing but a bare abstraction. In the following conversation between the King, described as a Voice, and Nandini, the nature of the crisis with which the modern age is faced is clearly set forth:

Voice

I long savagely to prove to you how cruel I am. Have you never heard moans from inside my room?

Nandini

I have. Whose moaning was it?

Voice

The hidden mystery of life, wrenched away by me, bewails its torn ties.

To get fire from a tree you have to burn it. Nandini, there is fire within you, red fire. One day I shall burn you and extract that also.

Nandini

Oh, you are cruel!

Voice

I must either gather or scatter. I can feel no pity for what I do not get. Breaking is a fierce kind of getting.

Nandini

But why thrust out your clenched fist like that?

Voice

Here! I take away my fist. Now fly, as the dove flies from the shadow of a hawk.

This conversation between the King and Nandini makes it perfectly clear that for Tagore the danger which the present machine age has created is the extinction

of education Our present system of education is hopelessly defective It is non ethical if not anti ethical In its apotheosis of facts, it has destroyed all perception of values From this point of view our ancient system of education was far better than the present When Narada, who was well versed in all the sciences that were known in his day, approached Sanatsumara for higher instruction the latter told him that what he had learnt so far was nothing but names He had, in fact acquired no knowledge of values

It may be said that what we require today is a better international organization creating a better understanding among nations This is really begging the whole question How can there be a better international organization if the men who will have to work it have no better minds to bring to their tasks than what they possess today? However grand any scheme of international co operation may look on paper it will never work if the people who are to work it have the same narrow outlook, the same prejudices the same selfish way of looking at things which they have today Our efforts should therefore be directed towards creating the right type of men—men with broad vision and deep sympathy who could be trusted to give up their narrow parochial interests for the sake of the establishment of peace and goodwill among men And the only way, so far as I can see in which we can succeed in this task is through a revolutionary change in our present system of education which is totally destructive of all sense of values

May we not hope that out of the present crisis, which seems to threaten man's very existence, he will emerge a better and nobler creature, fitted by virtue of the dawning of a higher consciousness to establish a world order which will not go to pieces as the present world order seems to do because it will be based upon a truer appreciation of the essential values and a better understanding of his great destiny!

FAITH IN GOD

BY MR V DHURANDHAR

When I'm in the inclement sea of Fate
Tossed upon the hostile billows of doom
Chill mists of misfortune gather and mate
With dreary shadows of the recent tomb—

Where sleep the bosoms fond affections,
cold
In eerie beds in death's mysterious night
When pangs renewed remembrance sweet
enfold,
Relentless anguish chokes heart's fire
light

When clouds of fate eclipse the crescent
— hopes—
The phantom light that flickered in the
breast
When life its way through sable tangles
gropes
And cares weigh heavy on my listless
crest

Undaunted still by flagrant odds I plod
By single step sustained—my Faith in God

WHY CAPITALISM FAILED

By MR M D A JAYATISSA PERERA

IN the early days, when every man, woman and child tilled sowed and reaped together when whatever that was produced was used for the welfare of the society as a whole each contributed according to his ability and each received according to his needs That was primitive Socialism However this system as time went on gradually gave in to the thuggery of slavery which of course was consequently considered obsolete by the feudalists who preferred to lay idle as much as possible by giving their land to be cultivated by some poor victims who had to be satisfied by the few wretched crumbs thrown at them as a return by the masters Remnants of this system exist to a great extent in India and Ceylon very conspicuously today

Man was not satisfied with such slow means of production so he thought of factories large scale industries and even of overseas trade conquering any weak colonies whenever force permitted This sort of commodity production developed until wage labour itself became a commodity This was capitalism From the point of view of production it was a better stage than feudalism It was a necessary evil Instead of allowing the society to reap the benefits of mass production, a few insignificant handful of individuals owned the means of production They bought labour power as they bought any other commodity A labourer working an eight hour day did enough work for what he was paid in two or three hours Deducting the wear and tear rents and all other expenses there is a profit or surplus value to the capitalist If not be no longer

manufactures What did the capitalist do to this surplus value? He bought machinery What a hundred workers did in hundred days one man with a machine did in less than one day Yet this one man did not receive a hundred men's wage but the wage of one man alone So what did machinery in the hands of capitalism mean? Hundreds and thousands were substituted by one single machine and the production was increased tremendously What happened? There were more goods than what man could afford to buy, for, a man should have money to buy and that money came only from the wages under capitalism!!

Bang went the gong!!! The seeds of destruction of capitalism germinated The capitalist found that there was no market for his goods He suspended production thereby throwing his workers into unemployment and with the problem of unemployment came hand in hand starvation disease poverty because every worker thrown out of employment had several dependants whom he had to feed! When they had no money they were hard hit Their dependants were also hit in turn! The chain of this capitalist production gave way only in one link but the entire dependent links had to fall consequently The fate of capitalism was thus sealed! It was doomed!! Capitalism was doomed long ago but no particular class gives in to another without a struggle and even to remove this dead rotten corpse of Capitalism there should be a struggle It is a task A very difficult task to those who do not believe in unity A very easy task to those who sincerely believe in it

REASON IN A DESPAIRING WORLD

By DR P T RAJU Ph D, SASTRI

THE advent of rationalism in the sixteenth century was welcomed by many as the emancipation of reason from superstition. The Middle Ages, called the Dark Ages, are said to have stifled reason, so that man could get only a perverted view of the truth of things. Those Ages were extremely religious; they were otherworldly. Faith in God and in angels was practically the first axiom of their thought, but that faith proved a great impediment to a true knowledge of the world. Man as part of nature was little understood, and the promotion of his happiness in this world was consequently neglected. Pestilence and famine were regarded as the scourge of God visiting sinners. Instead of seeking natural remedies, people were often asked to pray.

But the advent of rationalism dispelled such ignorance. False gods were scattered like shadows by the light of reason. Man has begun to feel confident about his position and status in this world. Science has progressed, diseases to a large extent have been conquered, and misery has lessened.

But so far the picture presented is one-sided. The last four decades of the twentieth century mark a peculiar reaction against rationalism. Long ago even in the eighteenth century Hume proclaimed and stressed that reason was only a servant of feeling. Our life is a life of feeling and emotion which are motive forces in all action. Reason by itself cannot move us. But Hume's protest against the prevalent rationalism in ethics was not much heeded. The general prejudice against his philosophy blinded men to the element of truth contained in his view. But modern psychology—particularly the depth psychology with its developments after the Great War I, has brought to light a large area of mind, hitherto little studied, into which our reason can hardly penetrate but which yet is proved to be an active force in our life. Many norms of our activity formed by reason are shown to be without basis in

fact or human nature, and because whatever cannot be naturally accomplished cannot be a moral injunction. The new discovery has necessitated a revaluation of our ethical standards and generated a distrust in reason.

During Great War II, there is more extensive application of established psychological principles than the discovery of new fields of psychology. The burning problem of the day is how to control scientific discoveries. The atomic bomb has stunned a proud nation and it has surrendered. But the rest of the world also is equally agonised. It is no consolation to say that the atomic energy can be harnessed to industry for producing greater comforts to human beings, for it may as well be harnessed for producing more powerful instruments of destruction. If some seventy bombs can efface the whole of the American civilization from the earth then some thousand bombs can destroy all civilization and it is not a difficult task to manufacture a thousand or even ten thousand bombs.

Depth psychology has shown that reason is not supreme. And many feel that the lesson of modern science is that reason should not be supreme. The atomic bomb is the result of pure scientific rationalism. 'Knowledge for knowledge sake' was the motto of our ancients. 'Science for science sake' is the cry of the moderns. But science for science sake has produced a devil like the atomic bomb, to control which humanity finds a perplexing problem.

Just as we are asked to put a stop to rationalism in morals, we are advised to say a halt to rationalism in science. There seems to be growing a general reaction against rationalism in almost all spheres of life. The Fascist philosophy is decidedly anti-rationalistic, but the prejudice against it has not prevented the general spread of anti-rationalism. For instance instead of the rational interpretation of history, a psychological interpretation is being advocated, as if periods of history may be divided into sadistic and masochistic. There

are many who disvalue such attempts, which yet are fashionable with some. And the distrust of scientific rationalism may develop into a wave of supernaturalism which may sweep before it all the benefits which rationalism has so far conferred on man, and plunge humanity again into ignorance and superstition. This is really the time when leaders of men in thought and action should keep their heads cool and avoid recoiling from extreme to extreme. This is undoubtedly a period of crisis. Man got over the superstitions of the Middle Ages, reasoned about nature and began controlling it. In the process he has encountered uncontrollable devils. During the Middle Ages man fled from this world, and in the modern times he escapes from superstition. Now he may retreat again from this world and seek shelter in superstition. All that is gained by the use of reason may be lost. The problem is how to conserve what is achieved and yet act recognising the limits of reason. What is to be conserved is not merely the results of rationalism but also the rationalistic attitude.

But is the rationalistic attitude to be preserved? If it is not preserved, there will be nothing to prevent man from believing in, and bowing before the worst of superstitions. The rationalistic attitude itself is one of the greatest achievements of humanity, and humanity can ill afford to lose it. The majority of philosophical writers say that the early Greeks were pre-eminently rationalistic. Socrates, Plato and Aristotle were all rationalists. They did not begin their arguments from faith in God as the first premise. Socrates started the method of dialectical understanding and formulation of concepts which was later developed by Plato and Aristotle. None of these Greeks was determined to prove the truth of God or justify His ways to men. So their reason was untrammelled. Throughout the Medieval Times reason was fettered. But during the Renaissance it again regained its freedom and is now more active and progressive than even in

the times of the Greeks. If there is to be a reaction against rationalism if we are to retreat from reason, a revival of the Dark Ages may have to be staged.

But, says Professor Whitehead, the Middle Ages were essentially rationalistic. Whenever the Middle Ages condemned something, they condemned it in the name of reason. The rationalism of the Middle Ages can be witnessed in the works of almost all the scholastics. They wanted to prove the existence of God, to reason about His nature to reason about Trinity, to reason about His attributes, to reason about His relation to man and nature. They reasoned and reasoned. They sent men to stake by reasoning, and they promised heaven to some by reasoning. They were as keen reasoners as any of our modern men.

Then how does our rationalism differ from theirs? Why do some believe that rationalism belongs to our age and not theirs? Whitehead says that our modern times begin with the historical revolt against the rationalism of the scholastics. By historical revolt means the empirical revolt, the revolt staged on behalf of the discovery of facts and associated with the name of Bacon. Reason not based on facts worked in a vacuum. It wove fine webs of argument, circles within circles mostly vicious, or chains of reasoning the termini of which were unsupported. God is omnipotent and so cannot be limited by matter but the world contains evil and God must have been limited in his activity of creation by a recalcitrant principle, matter, and so cannot be omnipotent. Any amount of intellectual energy was expended to prove either thesis. And such these are many. But of the omnipotence and other attributes of God or their opposites few had direct experience. Hence the historical revolt. The facts of the inner world were left to themselves because immediate experience of them was not given to all. Experiential facts are the facts of the outer world. We can reason about them and that our reasoning is grounded can be easily seen.

Those who tend to call the movement of the modern period by the name rationalism do so because modern rationalism gives no place to the supernatural. The factual generalisations or premises are not taken from mere faith or a sacred text but from experience. Hence most philosophers of the modern times, whether empiricists or rationalists, are rationalistic, in that they do not allow any element of pure faith—except faith in the principles and postulates of reason itself—to guide and control their reasoning. Faith in the principles and postulates of reason is common to all who reason, the ancients the medievals and the moderns. But the ancients and the moderns depend more upon observable and experiential facts than the medievals. Because faith is not reason, medieval rationalism is not treated by many as rationalism.

Depth psychology has its uses but it may mistake urges for ideals and distort the latter. Psychological explanations may be mistaken for justifications, and Jung already gave a note of warning. That psychic behaviour is motivated may be admitted, but the motives may be meanest satisfactions or highest ideals. The general anti-intellectualism and anti-rationalism of modern psychology may prevent it from seeing the need for a systematic synthesis of our personality and from recognising the importance of the role which rational ideals play in the process. Instead of demanding that ideals should be based upon human nature, that human nature is to be given the ideal form, and that the ideals should not be anti-human, it may insist that human nature is to be paramount, that ideals are to be only the completed forms of the urges, and thereby justify the lowest and the meanest.

The solution of the present problem lies in supplementing Western rationalism by the Indian, not because the processes of reasoning are different in the East and the West, but because the facts and problems with which reason was occupied in both are different. The reason of the Greeks was preeminently occupied with things

human, their rationalism was ethical rather than natural. The rationalism of the medievals was theological, based upon objects of faith. The reason of the modern man shook itself off from faith and was directed to nature. Modern rationalism is natural and scientific, and includes both man and nature in the objects of its study. It is a continuation of Greek rationalism but more comprehensive. Modern rationalism has practically left out the spiritual. Modern philosophers do have their philosophies of religion. But the facts of the spirit are not presented in their intimate relationship with the facts of nature. Hegel and many others have reasoned about religion, aesthetics and politics, and presented them as facts of spirit. But all these are externals, and even the facts of religion are facts of institutionalised religion or speculative hypotheses treated as unknowable and inexperiential. Religion as the inward truth of the world is either ignored or dismissed as mysticism.

What India can supply is religion as inward truth or rationalised inwardness. The peculiarity of Indian religion is that it is rational and reasoned. *Manana* or reflection forms one of the important stages of religious discipline. The inward truth is beyond intellect but not anti-intellectualistic. The rationalism of the Middle Ages was not so much concerned with presenting the highest truth as facts to be realised as with proving them and accepting them on faith. Further, Christianity with its inwardness was an alien on European soil. Sir S. Radhakrishnan says: 'It is not the pale Galilean that has conquered, but the spirit of the West'. The history of the Christian Church is the slow adaptation of an eastern religion to the western spirit. The true inwardness of religion is almost lost in the institutionalised Christianity of Europe. The truths of Christianity were presented as dogmas inaccessible to human experience, and so reason turned to nature and to man as part of nature, and felt itself emancipated after so turning. The need of the present is to present spiritual truths, not as dogmas.

to be accepted on faith but as facts accessible to experience. Thereby concession will be made to the historical revolt which was carried out in favour of experiential facts. And the spiritual facts for neglecting which man's life has become aimless will be brought into continuous connection with facts human and natural. Reason mediates between all, and life will become complete and integral. Depth psychology will get a still deeper meaning and a better technique for bringing to the light of reason the darker depths of mind may be developed.

Man's life is now incomplete and one-sided. He has mistakenly identified reason with reflection about nature around him. He has overlooked that his inner nature also is rational, and that the inner and outer form one continuity. Western thought, scientific and philosophical, has on the whole occupied itself with the outer. Life has therefore become unbalanced and man's knowledge of outer reality has become too heavy and is crushing his inner life. The fear of science is due to loss of confidence in one's self that one will use science only as an instrument of spirit. For man has

now lost knowledge of spirit and its need. The East is well versed in the science of spirit and can supply the necessary knowledge. Our philosophy of life itself must change.

Hence there is the urgent need of a world philosophy. The new philosophy must do full justice to both the Eastern and Western outlooks and stand points and rise above the one-sidedness of either. No reconciliation between East and West is possible, unless both are transcended and comprehended in a wider systematic synthesis. Otherwise the result would be a mere summation without integrality, a ridiculous combination of both, a travesty of the cosmopolitan's dream. Rationalism has still a greater and more difficult and important task to perform than what it has so far accomplished. It has to enable the West to adopt and assimilate the East and enable the East to adopt and assimilate the West. Then only will life become balanced both in the East and the West, and humanity be confident that it will use matter in the service of spirit. The despairing world has now a greater need of reason than before.

VERBAL LAPSES

By "OMEGA"

"MR PANDIT—excuse me, Mrs Pandit—Forgive me please this slip of the tongue"—this is the kind of apology which we often hear from speakers on the platform as also in the drawing room. No tongue is faultless—it has a way to slip—and the lapses, sometimes serious, sometimes delightful, are always accompanied with a fulsome apology which wipes out or mitigates the offence.

Some tongues are prone to frequent lapses. Such was the case with the late Dr W A Spooner, Warden of New College, Oxford. While reading a poetical line "Conquering Kings their titles take" he blundered into saying "kinquering kongs their titles take". It was a mere accidental

transposition of initial syllables of two words but Dr Spooner achieved immortality. A mistake of this type was nicknamed 'Spoonerism' and examples began to be gathered. Dr Spooner himself lived up to his reputation of being the originator and a consistent exponent of this new creation.

Many and interesting are the slips collected from his life by undergraduates and though some may be true, imagination also ran riot and every funny illustration of this species has been fathered on Dr Spooner. "I have just received a blushing crow," Dr Spooner is supposed to have said when he received a crushing blow. "Half-warmed fish in my bosom is a spoonerism for 'half formed wish in my bosom'." Other examples are

shoving leopard' for 'loving shepherd', "a well boiled icicle" for "a well oiled bicycle" I doubt the veracity of the following sentence uttered by the Professor in a talk to a mixed audience. He is reported to have said, 'I am tired of seeing a row of beery wenches' when his meaning was "I am tired of seeing a row of weary benches" And there is another "I set out with two rags and a bug" for "two rugs and a bag."

A story which went the round of students but which, I suppose, is altogether fictitious says that once Dr Spooner set out for Oxford Station to catch the train for London. His wife accompanied to see him off. As the train was about to steam the Doctor was seen kissing the porter goodbye and hurriedly pressing a shilling into his wife's hand, which reminds me of what I once read about an absent minded philosopher. With an umbrella in his hand he returned to his bedroom late in the evening his mind filled with metaphysical speculations. Soon after, on entering the room the wife noticed that the umbrella was lying on the bed and the philosopher husband was standing in the corner in the manner of an umbrella. This, I suppose, is a very good illustration of practical "Spoonerism."

I shall now release a collection of other varieties of blunders which can be classed under the comprehensive heading of verbal infelicities. Early in his elevated career the mayor of a small town in Lincolnshire was called upon to preside at a banquet. The list of toasts being submitted to him, he was advised that in proposing the health of the King and Queen it was not necessary or desirable that he should expand his remarks. Profiting by this advice when the time came, he said, 'Gentlemen I will ask you to join me in drinking a toast to the King. I am told and I am sure you will agree with me, that the less said on the subject the better.' The toast duly honoured her Majesty. And now gentlemen, he said, 'the King being drunk I give you the Queen.'

A quotation often causes a speaker to stumble. A Primrose Leaguer whose wife

was ruling-Counsellor and in the chair was making a reference to the qualities of the sitting M P and he said he was like his wife "I took her for better, for worse. She might have been better, she could not have been worse." Of course, he meant to put it the other way but could not understand the roars of laughter until the lady in the chair said, "I forgive him this time."

A tipsy Negro priest announced the impending visit of the Bishop in the following telling sentence "Brethren, his Lordship is a great man who thinks the unthinkable, who speaks the unspeakable and who unscrews the inscrutable." A worthy alderman in replying to the toast of his health said it had always been his endeavour to administer justice without swerving to 'partiality on the one hand and impartiality on the other.' How this can be done only a judge can tell you!

Take another 'Darling, will you love me when I am old and ugly?' inquired a pretty girl of her sweetheart. "Dearest," he replied tenderly, 'You may grow older but you will never grow uglier.' It took the youngman sometime to realise why his wife was so cross that evening. Of a piece with this instance is the story of a musician who fearing that his audience might be bored enquired, "Shall I carry on? I wonder if you like the song?" "Carry on," said a young man, "we have heard worse." The face of the musician fell and the young listener thought he had dropped a brick. Trying to mitigate the offence he exclaimed, "Don't you mind—but not many, not many." This is a capital example of the remark which makes bad worse.

At a mixed gathering in London a giddy girl asked the man she was dancing with 'who the ugly man was talking with the hostess.' "My brother," replied her partner coldly. Feeling ready to sink through the floor the poor girl gasped 'Well, how stupid of me! I ought to have noticed the likeness.'

An author who found that some manuscripts were removed from his desk and used

sons and grandsons are not allowed to marry actresses singers and dancers

Divorce is not very common or easy the reason being that a Chinese man can marry as many wives of lower status and inferior rank as he pleases. These wives are called concubines. In the event of there being no issue born the first wives plead with their husbands to have concubines. It is interesting to note that historically the rise of wealth and political disorder are responsible for the rise and growth of concubinage in China. There have been at times dancing girls in private household.

The reasons for man to divorce the wife are discovering unchastity on the wedding night subsequently adultery desertion bad temper sensuality theft drunkenness striking her husband disobedience and the like. He has not to go to the law court. The procedure is simple. "The Husband invites his male kinsmen to his family home and places the charges before his wife. Decision is given immediately. He hands over to his wife a bill of divorcement and takes from her the letter she has kept from the wedding day.

Should a wife like to seek divorce she has to prove that she was deluded into marriage by false representation or the husband contracted leprosy later on. However husband and wife can mutually separate. The law authorises the husband in case of adultery to kill his wife and her paramour. If the lover should kill the husband but not he the wife is condemned to death by strangling.

The ideal of womanhood has been as cherished preserved in China as in India. Orthodox Chinese opinion does not favour widow re marriage although chaste widow hood has never been practised through the ages. In Ming Dynasty however it did become an official institution. Women who kept their widow hood at any age between thirty and fifty were officially honoured.

Marriage is not the private affair of an individual but a family affair. This is because Chinese have preserved the Joint family system to this day. One does not marry a wife but marries a daughter in law as they say in China. When a son is born the more idiomatic expression is 'Grandson is born'. A wife has manifold responsibilities, to look after home and all members of the family to serve guests and to be a helpful wife and wise mother. She has autonomy in home affairs and a Chinese husband by habit submits in home whatever his social or political status outside may be. But the most powerful member in a home is the oldest lady who commands and dictates and every one else has to bow his or her head before her. Her words are final. Should a mother in law cannot help it by temperament or otherwise she considers it her treasured right to tyrannise over a daughter in law. Such disputes are becoming very common in modern China. Again you see a conflict of the old and the new.

Chinese have a strong sense of beauty—may be their own. It is this sense which has been responsible all through the ages for such an institution as foot binding which continues to exist in spite of dashing revolt against it. The Chinese mothers deem it their duty to bind the feet of their daughters from an early age so that the feet should not grow long and look ugly. As a foreigner I cannot have sympathy and imagination for appreciating the national custom. It is indeed cruel. But to give its value and merit for your own judgment let me put in the words of Lin Yutang 'The small feet of Chinese women are not only pleasing in men's eyes but in a strange and subtle way they influence the whole carriage and walking gait of the women throwing the hips backward somewhat like the modern high heeled shoes—looking at a woman with bound feet walking is like looking at a rope dancer tantalising to the highest degree. The bound feet is indeed the highest sophistication of Chinese sensual imagination.

So are the Chinese women

Oriental Studies and the New Government

BY MR V VENKATACHALAM, B A

THE Achilles' heel of our educational system has been westernization which has made it sterile. The British Government made it a settled principle of its educational policy not only to discourage but to suppress every indigenous art and culture of this country. Mainly on account of this, I believe, our country, which produced a thousand illustrious Kalidasas the frescoes of Ajanta and Ellora and the fabled Dacca Muslim has been reduced to its present state of bankruptcy. So this westernisation has to be mercilessly removed. One of the very first steps of the education minister (Madras) abolishing the teaching of English in the primary classes accepts this in principle—the encouragement of the indigenous language and the elimination of the foreign tongue. True it will take a long time before the scheme is perfected. But after all Rome was not built in a day and we shall certainly live to see its crowning ceremony.

We have now a National Government holding the reins and the first aim of a National Government is to annihilate root and branch and in toto everything that is anti national. This applies as much to the educational field, as to the political or any other field. The decision of the Health Minister to patronise indigenous medicine and place it on a level with allopathy instead of treading mercilessly upon it, has rightly been acclaimed by the public in one voice. That is the first bold step in the routing of anti nationalism in the medical field. An equally important measure is to place the language and literature natural to the nation on a par it not higher, with other languages. *It shall be a permanent blot on the very existence of a National Government to give more weight to a foreign language than its own.* It is like a disloyal husband squandering his earning in decorating his paramour's drawing room when his own wife is starving and shrieking for a morsel. It is therefore the instant duty of the Education Minister—I purposely call it a duty—to remove at one stroke all the invidious and humiliating distinctions in the treatment meted out to

students and teachers of Indian languages. Their ignorance of English should no more be considered a bar to their status being raised. The pandits teaching Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu etc have been suffering untold miseries for ages long, for no other fault than to have studied their native languages. The very word 'pandit' has become a by word for contempt only because he studied a Kalidasa or a Kamban instead of a Shakespeare, only because he stood for his country, by holding aloft the torch of Eastern culture and literature instead of the Western. It makes one shudder to think of these flagrant injustices in spite of which our pandits have carried on with patience undaunted and unperturbed. They are real heroes of the nation, who have sacrificed their all for the cause of the nation's literature. Their patience has been tried too long and the present reform is long overdue. I therefore appeal to the Minister through these columns with all the emphasis at my command to hurry up this measure. It is strange that the Minister has not said a single word on the subject till now. Is it because he is unaware of it or does it spring from an unwillingness to tackle the problem? It ought to have been one of the first items of his policy. Better late than never! What concrete form the reform is to take is a matter for the Minister to decide. I choose to suggest here only the skeleton. The backbone of it is raising the status of teachers of Oriental languages in schools and colleges. The epithet 'Pandit' with its odious associations may as well be removed and a new one like Adhyapak (as in the BHU) substituted in its place. In the matter of pay and powers there ought not to be the least discrimination between teachers and professors of other subjects like English, History, Science etc and these men. In the dawn of the new orientation, words like 'teachers' and 'professors' may as well be eschewed out altogether and all teachers irrespective of their subjects be designated as Adhyapaks or by some other suitable word. To be called by the same

to light the fire was furious at the house-maid 'Oh but I did not take any of the clean paper, Sir, pleaded the girl "I only took some that had been scribbled on! This was an innocent suggestion But I think the reply of the lady in the following story was distinctly waggish The husband complained 'The manuscripts of two chapters of my latest novel have been removed from the table and burnt I am sure it is the work of our mischievous dog who is playing about He must have dropped them in the hearth' 'Nonsense' said the wife 'Do you suppose he can read them

It was a provincial mayor who blessed with a numerous progeny publicly expressed the pious hope that his sons might grow up to be better citizens than their father and his daughters more virtuous women than their mother The country doctor, combining in his mornings round a visit to the squire and another to the vicar said that he was trying to kill two birds with one stone I think doctors if they choose to speak at all must do it correctly Look at another blazing indiscretion committed by the speaker on the spot

Patient Doctor are you sure this is pneumonia? Sometimes doctors prescribe for one thing and patients die of something else

Doctor (with dignity) When I prescribe for pneumonia you die if pneumonia

Are professors proof against verbal lyses? What do you think of the teacher who said rather pompously, I am going to talk to you about the Hippopotamus and you cannot get an adequate idea of this animal unless you keep on looking at me? On another occasion 'Are you laughing at me?' demanded the Professor sternly of his class Oh no Sir came the reply in chorus Then asked the Professor even more grimly 'What else is there in the room to laugh at?

The magistrate's court was the scene of an angry passage at arms between two lawyers And during this wordy warfare one of the lawyers addressed the other, You are the

biggest fool that I have ever seen' The Magistrate promptly intervened, 'Order order, don't you see I am present here! Everybody was impressed with the magisterial presence!

In his preface to *Vice versa* T Anstey has related the story of a punctiliously polite Greek who, while performing the funeral of an infant daughter felt bound to make his excuse to the spectators for "bringing out such a ridiculously small corpse to so large a crowd And that reminds me of the Indian Muslim who, for certain unavoidable reasons could not attend in person the funeral of his friend's son He asked his own son to go and express sympathy on his behalf The bereaved father had two sons and the one who had died was a wastrel who gave no end of trouble to his parents One young hopeful who went to join the funeral knew it and by way of solace to the father who was plunged in grief observed, "I think you shouldn't take it very much to heart for after all the chap was no good he was a thorn in your flesh' It was a piece of blazing indiscretion The news reached the absent father of the culprit and he came running with many apologies Said he 'Dear friend excuse me and my son The blooming idiot is guilty of gross indiscretion he is a greenhorn in these matters But believe me, my friend I have decided that when a similar opportunity arises next I shall make it a point to come myself and shall never send my son And all this in polite and fluent Urdu of which he was a consummate master!

An Irish gentleman wanted to learn music of an eminent singing master He enquired the terms and was told "Two guineas for the first lesson and for as many as you please afterwards, a guinea each

Oh bother the first lesson! said the inquirer, 'let us begin with the second' This, however is an example of an 'Irish Bull' What is an Irish Bull? That is a species of blunders to which I may revert sometime later

CHINESE WOMEN

By MR PREM NATH, MA

ALMOST anything is possible in China is the opinion expressed by the Chinese Scholar Lin Yutang and that is equally true of Chinese women and their life

Chinese as a nation love life and all that goes with that. Their philosophy is the art of living. It is their heritage. They do not bother about metaphysical speculations so long as they can get their meals and tea. And plenty of it! And prepared to give the best flavour water taken possibly, from the spring prescribed by the experts on preparation of this drink for a particular season. They love nature and art and are always playful with them. They love their earth. They love their homes.

In this sport of life Chinese woman plays the most conspicuous part. She is the heroine of the drama of life so much so that Chinese thinkers take it possible that the drama could be played without a hero but not without a heroine.

But it is not till recently that the Chinese women came to partake in all social and political activities of the country. Like women in India they too have been tied down to the homes for ages. For ages they have been trained to learn home craft and mother craft in Home!—one of the Greatest Universities of China. It is for that reason perhaps that an average girl of the age of a boy in China is more well behaved and less childish. It used to be a privilege of very few families to teach their daughters simple reading and writing.

With the rise of modern systems of education in China however both native and imported from west, the attention of women has been switched off to all extra-home activities of the nation. Yet home remains to be the pivot of their activities. The girls were first admitted to the Peking National University in 1919 and this was followed by the practice of co education in almost all the colleges. The results since then have shown that girls are just as good at studies as the boys in the same

educational roof—of course during these years of devastation the Chinese students have had no roof and have been reading in the open.

Promulgation of the law entitling equal inheritance to girls by the Nanking Government has given an added prestige, self respect and independence of girls.

But as in India, the two types of girls, old and modern, exist side by side in China. The modern Chinese girl like her sisters in the West loves luxury and superficialities. But she is ridiculed by the old type for her frivolous and aping life. She is a regular theme of ridicule in Chinese magazines. So you see the tug of war going on between the old and the new.

Courtship is, more or less, a recognised institution in China—A Chinese girl may or may not be in love with a particular boy but she certainly is in love as she loves life. With her growth she develops a sensitive feeling and secretly distributes love of heart. Her heart throbs with the 'libido' of life and she makes her presence feel in so many ways. She loves to have gifts from boys as token of their love. Chinese songs of love are songs of absence, of departure, of frustrated hope, cold bed etc. And the Chinese Drama usually ends with the words, "May all the lovers of the world become united in wedlock."

Yet marriages may be easily forced upon boys and girls for isn't it that every thing is possible in China.

Marriage is a right in China. Even the slave girls should be married off at a proper age. So the society insists on the practice, after Confucius one of the greatest teachers of China, who held fast to the opinion that the ideal society is that where there are no unmarried men and women. The proper age considered for marriage is between sixteen and thirty for men and between fourteen and twenty for women. There is prohibition of marriage between the persons of different social ranks. For instance officials and their

name is in itself a symbol of equality. The position of pay at present is awful. The 'Pandits' end where the 'Professors' start. In the high schools 'pandits' start on Rs 30 or 40 and end with Rs 80 whereas other teachers start from Rs 80 and go so far as Rs 150. The situation in Colleges is still worse. Pandits there start somewhere about Rs 40 and the height of their ambition is to reach the first triple figure i.e. Rs 100. Professors on the other hand go as far as Rs 300 or even higher. (These figures are only representative and meant to indicate a general idea.) As a first step to set things aright the Govt can lead the way by abolishing such differences in Government schools and colleges. As a next measure it can pass an order that in all private and aided schools there ought to be no discrimination in the treatment of teachers of oriental languages. Let there be uniform scale of pay for pandits and professors alike. In the high schools, they may be allowed pay on the scale of other teachers and in the colleges on the scale of the Professor or Lecturer as the case may warrant to be decided on individual merits.

As an ardent Sanskritist having dedicated my life for the cause I consider it my next duty to answer some very unjust and paltry criticisms levelled against pandits in general and specially against students and teachers of Sanskrit. It is often times urged that Sanskrit pandits have less number of students to handle than others and so it is only just and proper that they should be paid less. Fine argument indeed! But what of the teachers in the Honours and other classes where too there are lesser students and yet they are paid high? The number of students can never be the only criterion to decide the pay of the teacher. The work turned out is the same in either case. Another criticism very often levelled is that Sanskrit has become out of date—a dead language as they term it—and as there is no material use in its study, it does not deserve to be placed on equal status with other subjects. The people who advance such a criticism have only to pause and consider what practical use can the

study of any literature have. What is the earthly use of studying Shakespeare or Milton? Professors of Shakespeare are not paid less on that score! It must be remembered that literature and art are ends in themselves and never means to an end. Their use is only in the fact that they are one of those sweet things in life which make life livable and enjoyable. "Like virtue," said Oliver Lodge "it (literature) is its own reward." A third argument is that sufficient number of students are not forthcoming for Sanskrit studies and this in itself is conclusive evidence of its deterioration. I don't know where from such arguments were invented! But it is not a trifle stronger than the others. Your argument is like bolting the door from within and complaining that no one enters the hall. You have denied the least trace of any prospects in life for students of Sanskrit and complain that they do not come up. Students, after passing the Siromani Examination have no other alternative but to seek employment as teachers in High schools and obviously there cannot be a chance for all. As a consequence, they have to degrade themselves further and to the meanest means of filling up their bellies. I know hosts of Siromanis—veritable crest jewels who have thrown away their Kalidasa and Bhavabhuti and have accepted petty jobs in shops and business concerns for a paltry pittance of Rs. 30. Having set so many obstacles to the study, in the name of justice how can you expect students to come in large numbers! It is like tying down the legs of one of the competitors in the race and declaring that he has lost the race. What is wonderful is that in spite of tied legs, in spite of the multitudinous barriers you have set people still continue to study Sanskrit and the University considers the number large enough to conduct examinations for them in more than twenty centres in the Province. There may be many more of such arguments but I am sure not one of them can stand the test of searching reason. I therefore once again appeal to the Education Minister to give everyone a fair chance before pronouncing the judgment.

THE GLORY OF GURJARADESA

• BY "HISTORICUS"

THE Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan of Bombay has been doing a great deal for the resuscitation and propagation of our ancient Indian literature. Some time ago, it brought out the first part "The Glory that was Gurjaradesa" which dealt with a detailed history of pre historic greater Gujarat. We now have before us Part III an account of "The Imperial Gurjaras" covering a period of nearly 750 years.

The author of this volume* is Mr K M Munshi, the well known lawyer and politician. To the public at large it must be a matter of supreme satisfaction that he has found time in the midst of active professional and public engagements to take up the great literary task.

Mr Munshi gives abundant reasons for disposing of as untenable, the theory of the immigration of the Gurjaras. Gujarat according to him, is not the same thing as Gurjaradesa or Gurjara. The word Gurjara is applicable to a region in the middle of the sixth century A.C. It was inhabited by people whose language, habits, way of writing and social institutions were one. Life and language too appear to have evolved in one continuous process. The little region Gurjara, with Billamala as capital blossoms forth in history as the Imperial Gurjaradesa. The homogeneous people of these regions under the leadership of mighty warriors and statesmen who claimed their ancestry from men who sprung into fame within a radius of a few miles of Mount Abu not only enlarged the bounds of Gurjaradesa, but established a mighty empire.

Mr Munshi presents the story of the splendid achievements of the rulers during the eighth and ninth centuries A.C. in clear perspective, more particularly the period covered by the rule of Mihira Bhoja when the Empire extended from the Indus to the Brahmaputra and the Himalayas to

the Vindhya. In the short space of a book review, it will be difficult to do justice to the contents of this volume which gives ample proof of research and literary ability of a high order. The history of Gurjaradesa during the period under review reveals the important fact that four great Kshatriya clans connected by blood and tradition and by the country of their origin, remained closely knit in high adventure and imperial ambition throughout the period from 550 to 1300 A.C.

Attention however may be drawn to the glowing account of the reign of Mihira Bhoja the Great whose political tradition was both progressive and aggressive. His outlook was broad based on three fundamental politico-social conceptions surprisingly modern in form, which show the advanced stage of political theory and action of those times. First the king owes his position to no divine sanction, but to the wishes of the people. Secondly, the king is only an instrument of maintaining Danda or Sovereignty. Thirdly, Sovereignty in the State is based on the Common Law as propounded in the *Dharma sastras* which was above the king and inalienable. Fourthly, Varnasramadharma is a dynamic world force, not a static condition. More interesting still is the record of the achievements of a bold thinker, a great and an astute politician by name Medhatithi, the celebrated commentator of the *Manusmriti*. Mr Munshi gives high praise to his political acumen, his robust commonsense and his great political independence. As a jurist he was concerned with the problems of an age which was both progressive and expansive in its political, social and religious outlook. His ideas of sovereignty and unification of society show clearly that he was not only a scholar but a master mind who worked in close contact with the efforts of a powerful ruler to consolidate the country and achieve imperial expansion.

In the last chapter, Mr Munshi tries to explain the causes which led to the collapse of the Empire of the Gurjaras. He traces

* The Glory that was Gurjaradesa—Part III
The Imperial Gurjaras—By K M Munshi. The
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Bombay—Rs 1

them 'to the progressive localisation of sentiments in Gurjaradesa which had grown apace after the break up of the First Empire, to the hopeless disintegration of royal power by polygamy and the distribution of lands among members of the family, reducing kingship to a nominal headship of inter-related overlords to the unawareness of the Indian statesmen of the day to the condition prevailing and forces operating outside the boundaries of India, to the

failure of the Indians to adjust their refined and humane culture to the needs of a sudden crisis in which unrelenting sternness was needed to match the savagery of the rushing enemy, and most of all to the educative and cultural organization of life being divorced from a national centre of political power. Throughout, the book is in a vigorous and attractive style and is deeply coloured by fervent and patriotic enthusiasm.

SIDNEY AND BEATRICE WEBB

BY BERNARD SHAW

QUITE the most interesting and important English life story of 1915 was Mrs Margaret Cole's biography of Beatrice Webb the famous wife and collaborator of Sidney Webb, the illustrious pair (officially Baron and Lady Passfield) being the foremost historians and analysts of English local government, the leaders of the Fabian movement which has made Socialism practicable and respectable in Europe and finally the skilled investigators who made the much misunderstood Russian political and economic experiment in new civilization intelligible and hopeful in the West.

"Wry subjects for a dog book" will be the comment of thriller addicts on this introduction. But no serious reader will be indifferent to news of one whom Mrs Cole describes as "one of the greatest women of our generation." And nobody with the possible exception of myself, knows half as much about the Webbs, or understands that knowledge, as Mrs Cole. Nothing better can be done until the time comes when Beatrice Webb's diary, written up from day to day emerges from its veil of privacy and of her desperately illegible handwriting, and takes its place among the notable diaries of the last two centuries.

Meanwhile I have a word to say about Mrs Cole's book, that has not yet been said. It gives us not only the public life of a great woman, but a very intimate and

fascinating account of a happy marriage. If all marriages were as happy, England, and indeed the civilized world, would be a Fabian paradise.

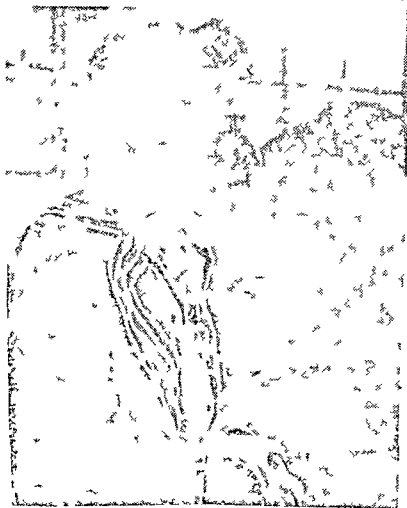
Unfortunately it was not only a childless and exceptional one, but from a very common point of view an ascetically joyless one. Our national sports and pleasures, well within their means, were simply distasteful to the Webbs. Beatrice betting in the ring, at the Derby or Grand National, Sidney in at the death at a fox hunt, were inconceivable. Exercise they took religiously. Beatrice could walk me off my legs, and bicycling was not only permitted but rigorously prescribed for many years until Sidney's odd habit of fainting occasionally without symptoms or sequels overtook him one day on his bicycle, and she, riding as usual ahead of him and missing him, rode back and found him comfortably unconscious in the ditch with nothing else the matter with him. After that he was not permitted to walk by machinery.

TRAPPIST ASCETICISM

Their life, therefore, presents itself to most of us as one of almost Trappist asceticism, except that it was by no means silent, for neither of them ever stopped talking when they were not reading or writing. Yet they enjoyed it thoroughly. I lived with them a good deal before my own late marriage, and was quite accustomed

to be with them at work and to see Beatrice every now and then when she felt she needed a refresher (Sidney was tireless) rise from her chair throw away her pen and hurl herself on her husband in a shower of caresses which lasted until the passion for work resumed its sway and they wrote or read authorities for the footnotes

generally will intensify to a chronic ecstasy and produce a normal enjoyment of life such as I have only experienced a very few times in my long life in dreams. The census most needed at present is of the few people who would not prefer unlimited champagne and expensive cigars ropes of pearls in a box at the opera on the grand



BEATRICE WEBB

This photograph was taken by Mrs. Webb's lifelong friend Mr. George Bernard Shaw

until it was time for another refresher. Meanwhile I placidly wrote plays but was confirmed in my peculiar doctrine that a point will be reached in human mental development when the pleasure taken in brain work by St. Thomas Aquinas and the Webbs and by saints and philosophers

ter and a fleet of Rolls Royces to the Webb Annals routine.

Looking through the index of Mrs. Cole's book for personal contacts made and cultivated by the Webbs one is struck by the absence or scarcity of the references to the aesthetic and histrionic celebrities with whom

their reach William Morris, their greatest Communist contemporary, is not mentioned except once in a reference to his house but not to himself. Cunningham-Graham, most picturesque of all their Socialist contemporaries and a story writer of genius (he figures in my play 'Arms and the Man' with Webb in strong contrast), is not mentioned at all. Among the Fabians nothing is made of the conspicuously able pro-consul Olivier who went his own way so unscrupulously that if his impulses had not been those of a good man he would have been a first-rate scoundrel. Hubert Bland, with his phenomenal muscular strength and prowess as a pugilist, his ferocious monocular scrutiny (his eyesight was defective) was dismissed by Beatrice after a brief investigation as a mask though as a typical suburban Tory converted to Socialism by falling among the primitive Fabians his point of view counted for a good deal in the development of Fabian policy.

STROKE OF GENIUS

These and other instances provoke the notion that the Webbs were Philistines insensible to literature and art. They were far too intelligent to be anything of the sort, but they were supreme social investigators, and had to deal with men in the mass as citizens and not as geniuses.

Beatrice was puzzled and repelled by individuals whom she could not class; she was not at her ease with me until she had classified me as a sprite. She catalogued Ramsay MacDonald as 'a facade' and A.J. Cook as "an inspired goose." As an investigator she would not be bothered by unclassable and incalculable people, but she was by no means stupidly insensible to their talent. Her choice of Webb was a stroke of genius, for to her relatives and in her social set the general opinion was voiced by a graceless nephew who raised the alarm in the family by announcing that Aunt Bo was marrying a seditious cockney cad.

Never was there a man less of a cad than Sidney. Within my experience he was

the only man who combined prodigious ability and encyclopaedic knowledge with entire simplicity and integrity. When as practitioners of the arts of public life we were all posing, acting, dramatising ourselves as best we could, Webb never posed, never acted, never courted popular favour or any other favour, and was never in danger of becoming a humbug and a living fiction, not to say a living lie.

The rare virtue in him had its disadvantages. When he had made his work intelligible and authentic he would not spend a moment in making himself or his style fascinating: such tricks never entered his head. In the House of Commons he would hardly make himself audible. He was sometimes impatient with people because he gave them all credit for being gifted as himself and could not imagine that what was obvious to him instantaneously was Greek to them. Lady Aster said of him that she had no doubt that he knew everything but that he should remember occasionally that other people didn't. His advice was not always as gracious as it was good.

As both he and Beatrice conscientiously refrained from forming their conclusions until they had with inexhaustible industry investigated all the available evidence, they had furious disputes with me at almost every step. I am not a complete apriorist or deductive reasoner because I always start from a single fact or incident which strikes me as significant. But one is enough. I never collect authorities nor investigate conditions; I just deduce what happened and why it happened from my flair for human nature knowing that if necessary I can find plenty of documents and witnesses to bear me out in any possible conclusion. This is a shorter method than that of the Webbs, and by it I sometimes reached their conclusions before they did and had them fiercely contested accordingly. When we were living together on Milford Common Mrs. Green, widow of the historian John Richard Green, author of *A Short History*

of the English People, paid us a visit and was so startled at our first after dinner discussion that she could not believe that we could remain on speaking terms after it and was relieved to find next morning that it had made not the smallest change in our personal relations and was part of our daily routine

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Certainly our work never suffered from lack of home criticism, and as Socialism begins at home and yet is so international in its practical problems that when they have been solved for the British carpenter or chemist they have been solved for every carpenter or chemist in the civilized world, we did not concern ourselves with diplomacy. That is why there was no Webb foreign policy, nor any Shavian one until 1913, when I woke up to the threatening danger of war, and urged the declaration of the Pact made years afterwards at Locarno when it was too late and no expert believed in it nor in the equally futile Kellogg Pact which followed. I saw the situation too clearly being in England that most foreign of all

foreigners an Irishman completely objective in my criticism of that curious freak called God's Englishman. This objectivity was so unbearable in England that though I was pro English when it came to fighting Kruger, Kaiser, or Hitler when they went all out for race hegemony, I ran some risk of being lynched, and did not try to drag the Webbs with me in my incursion into foreign affairs.

Besides, having been converted to Socialism not by Marx dialectics and his erroneous capitalist theory of value, but by the tremendous impact of his English industrial facts and figures, I knew that the Cease Fire that followed his death could be ended by Webb who alone could out Marx Marx in his command of that atomic sort of ammunition. Until the Russian Revolution turned their eyes abroad the Webbs ignored diplomacy because they had something better to do, not that they were less conscious of it than Lord Vansittart. This was proved when they made their last great study of the Soviet constitution, went all out in its acceptance as a new and more hopeful civilization.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN INDIAN STATES

BY MR SUNDER LAL SHARMA MA FFC S (Eng)

IMPORTANT as the question of a just division of the national income is the standard of living of the people cannot be raised by ignoring the need for greater production in both industry and agriculture.

None can deny that India once had the reputation of being the home of cottage industries, the products of some of which combined art with craftsmanship of the finest type. For instance, Dacca muslins and Benares silks achieved world wide fame. With the advent of cheap machine made goods India gradually lost her individuality—may be only temporarily—as the demand for objects of art and beauty suffered a set back.

Thanks to the farsightedness of some of the Rulers of Indian States and the practical interest taken by their Governments not only in the preservation but also in improving the position of cottage industries some of them have been able to hold their own in the face of stiff competition from machine made goods.

It is a matter of deep and genuine satisfaction that Rulers of Indian States, while fostering the growth of large scale industries in their States, have not been unmindful of the need for the development of cottage industries. Another point worthy of note in connection with cottage industries is that a good many States have

the quiet, unpretentious, out of the way fishing village into a living kaleidoscope of colour and humanity. On the *Kodai* day and the day previous, Mandakkad is one vast seething mass of humanity the like of which could only be witnessed during the festivals in temples. In small bands of ten to twenty pilgrims from various parts of Travancore arrive at Mandakkad two or three days prior to the actual *Kodai* and camp on the extensive sea shore adjoining the Temple. During the *Kodai* season at Mandakkad it is a familiar sight on the roads throughout the State to come across batches of pilgrims, both men and women, carrying on their hands *Kodas*, umbrella-like banners bearing the representation of Sri Bhagavathi, and on their heads small bundles of food stuffs and offerings, singing songs in praise of the deity and marching on knowing no fatigue. The State provides the large concourse of devotees who gather at Mandakkad with the necessary medical, public health and other amenities. During the festival season religious conventions are held in the precincts of the Temple. On the tenth day of the festival in the temple is the *Kodai*.

To witness the *Kodai* is to participate in one of the most imposing and sacred

religious festivals in the State. The background for the *Kodai* is the glorious seascape. The pilgrims watch the *Kodai* with reverence, amidst magnificent, natural scenery. On all sides as far as the eyes can reach are the huge concourse of pilgrims gathered to pay homage to the Goddess, the sparkling white sands, the sheltering palms lining the coast, and the shimmering blue ocean. Artistic, aesthetical, and symbolic, the *Kodai* is a harmonious commingling of historical and traditional associations, form, design, colour, sound and pageantry. The exuberance and devotional ecstasy of the devotees was great and cool down only after the *Kodai* is over and they trek their way back home when they take with them various kinds of highly useful and artistic articles manufactured from the palmyrah leaves for which exquisite art-crafts Mandakkad and the neighbouring places in South Travancore are famous.

The Mandakkad temple is noted for its mural paintings, wood carvings and copper images. Until a few years ago, animal sacrifice used to be an important and indispensable part of the *Kodai* festival but it was abolished by a Royal Proclamation.

THE INDIAN CRICKET TEAM IN ENGLAND

By Mr V R LAKSHMI RATAN

IN the interval of four weeks between the 1st and 2nd Tests, the Indian Cricket team, now in England, played six first class matches. Of these, Lancashire and Yorkshire the two counties that are in the run for the County Championship played with the Visitors twice within a fortnight. Lancashire lost the first game and drew the second. Merchant batted well in both the matches. In the second match he got the first double century of the tour. Vijay

seems to have a special liking for Lancashire. Every time he has played against this County he has made good scores. Yorkshire inflicted an innings defeat in the first match but in the return game, which was a tall scoring one, the Indian team very nearly returned the compliment. Vijay Hazare emulated his Vice-captain by scoring 244 not out against Yorkshire in the second fixture.

BOWLING WEAKNESS

The batting of the Indian team has stood up well and has been able to hold their own against all the counties the team has played so far. However it is the bowling the weakness of which has been exposed by practically every county that has let the side down. Barring Vinoo Mankad and Lala Amarnath the others have failed to do any serious damage. C S Nayudu continues to be a passenger in the team while Sarwate and Shinde after some good performances early on have gone into the shade. The two pace bowlers Bannerjee and Sohoni are yet to get wickets suitable for their type of bowling. From all reports, the ground fielding of the Indian team has been uniformly good while the same cannot be said of their work in the air. Hindlekar has been keeping wicket very well in spite of his injury.

SECOND TEST

The Second test of the series commenced on the 20th July at Old Trafford ground, Manchester. Gul Mohamed, Shinde and C S Nayudu who played in the First Test were replaced by Mushtaq Ali, Sohoni and Sarwate. There were two changes in the English side also. Pollard and Voce taking the place of Smailes and Bowes. Pataudi, the Indian Skipper, winning the toss put England in. The strong English batting side surprisingly enough were dismissed for under 300 runs after being 236 for four wickets at the end of the first day. Amarnath and Mankad were in devastating form. Both bowled practically unchanged and bagged five wickets each. The Indians started well. Merchant and Mushtaq the opening pair putting on a hundred for the 1st wicket. Once this partnership was broken the English bowlers Pollard and Redser bundled out the whole side for 170 runs. The Indian team were 124 runs behind the English total when they took the field again. England going in again with a lead of 124 runs lost four of their best batsmen, Hutton, Washbrook, Hardstaff and Hammond for a meagre total of 68

runs. But Dennis Compton and Ikin made an English victory possible by taking the score to 153 for 6 when Hammond declared. The Indians had to get 278 runs in 190 minutes for a win. Merchant was out a duck. Mushtaq and Pataudi returned to the Pavilion even before the 1st decade went up. Amarnath, obviously tired after his long spells of bowling, failed again. However, Hazare and Modi and later on Hindlekar and Sohoni by some careful back to the wall batting saved their side from defeat. The Indian team by drawing this match has kept alive the interest in the Oval Test.

PATAUDI'S TACTICS

The Indian Skipper's decision to field after winning the toss and altering the batting order in the first innings has already been criticised by all experts of the game. If only Pataudi had gone in himself or had sent Amarnath instead of Hafeez in the 1st innings may be the Indian side would not have found itself in queer street on the final day. It was unfortunate that after having dismissed England so cheaply and after the good start given by the opening pair, Merchant and Mushtaq the other batsmen did not drive home the advantage gained. This has clearly proved that our team still lacks the fighting qualities which are so essential for Test Cricket.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The League and the Cabinet Plan

It is regrettable that the Muslim League should have gone back on its decision to participate in the constituent assembly and plunged into the uncertain sea of non co operation not only with the British Government but with their own fellow men in India. It is a fatal step as much to the cause of Indian freedom as to the cause of the Muslims themselves whose interests are sought to be protected in this petulant fashion. For by its resolution, as the *Times* truly says

the League has laid itself open to the charge of obstructing India's progress to nation hood and of sacrificing patriotism to pique

Incidentally it would appear that the spiritual conquest of the country by Gandhi and the Congress is so complete that their worst critics and opponents have taken to their methods and manoeuvres in such perfect faith. It is a striking though unconscious tribute to the genius of Gandhi and his technique that Dr. Ambedkar has taken to Satyagraha and Mr. Jinnah advocates renunciation of title. Mr. Jinnah himself has no title to lose and for some of his henchmen it may be all that they have (besides their estates) and losing that they may lose all. It is, therefore, a very serious step the League has taken, as it is doubtless aware. But to persist in a wrong cause with a passion worthy of a better cause is decidedly suicidal.

The League for the moment, is swayed by hatred of the Hindus and chagrin at the Mission's attitude. It wants to know if the British Government would defer to its wishes in the way they have been doing so long, if the progress could be arrested by its truculence and intransigence. Hence its threat of defiance, and wild talk of direct action whatever it may mean. "To day we have forged a pistol" says Mr. Jinnah "and are in a position to use it." Mr. Jinnah, like a good tactician, is blissfully vague.

Surveying his work of destruction Mr. Jinnah says with glum satisfaction, "I have done my best, it is for the British and the Congress now to approach me with fresh proposals." Are the British and the Congress going to oblige Mr. Jinnah and rescue him from his folly? Having agreed to the long term plan and gone through the elections it is their business to go ahead according to plan. It is for Mr. Jinnah to drop his threats and make a friendly approach.

It is hoped that the League's adherence to Gandhian methods will include adherence to his principle of non violence also. Mr. Jinnah once boasted that if only the League so desired, it could give more trouble than the Congress. What right has he, with his "brute majority"—to quote his own language—to coerce and bully patriotic and independent Muslims? We trust that whatever Government be in power, it will deal with the situation justly and competently, and if it fails, public sympathy will not be wasted on it.

It was a wise move on the part of the Congress to have elected men of all political and religious persuasions to the constituent assembly. In this lies its strength as also the good of the nation. It is hoped that whatever its present grievances wiser counsels will prevail or the League will be made to realise the truth of Mr. Attlee's dictum 'that no minority could be allowed to obstruct the will of the nation.' For, Mr. Jinnah, as the *Daily Mirror* observes,

has made it inevitable that the Congress which is the majority party shall rule India. How could it be otherwise? The whole life of the country cannot be allowed to collapse because Mr. Jinnah refuses to take part in it.

Nor could it be forgotten that there are elements anxious to fish in troubled water's. The League will be well advised to say to Churchill and his kind—hands off! For if it thinks that Churchill and the Tories will back it out of altruistic motives, it will find itself grievously mistaken.

The AICC Meeting

The new All India Congress Committee met last month at the same place in Bombay where four years ago on August 8 1942 it was outlawed as a result of the 'quit India' resolution. Much water has flowed under the bridge since then and a wholesome change has come over the fortunes of the country. The 'quit India' slogan remains but it is a 'quit India' with a difference. The Congress executive was fighting for its right and a bewildered and suspicious government was challenging it at every step. But to day the circumstances are different. The British government itself realising the inevitability of the change has come forward to sponsor the proposal and is busy devising plans for the smooth and safe transference of power. That at any rate is the significance of the mission of the British Cabinet in India.

For three months the Congress Working Committee was negotiating with the British government in consultation with other political parties in the country. The result of these deliberations is embodied in the resolution adopted by the Working Committee and submitted to the British government as its final decision. That decision is momentous in many respects and it is but proper that it should be ratified by the AICC. The fifteen word resolution seeking ratification for the Working Committee decision was subjected to strong criticism from the Socialists but the House finally rallied round the sponsors and voted solidly. For it was realised that permitting amendments at this stage would only weaken the position of the Congress Cabinet. Having agreed to the long term proposals of the Cabinet Mission which had also been accepted by two other parties in the country, it would be very awkward if the AICC at this stage introduced new conditions. The Working Committee therefore rightly made the conduct of the negotiations with the British an issue of confidence.

The Constituent Assembly

Having accepted the long term plan the Congress plunged into the business with a will and set itself to the task of selecting the best available material in the country. Indeed for a decade past the idea of the constituent assembly has been taking shape in Congress minds, and in spite of reminders of its fearful historic associations progressive Congressmen, clung to it with amazing persistency. As long ago as 1934, while rejecting the Government of India Bill, the Congress at its annual session declared that 'the only satisfactory alternative' was 'a constitution drawn up by a constituent assembly elected on a basis of adult suffrage or as near it as possible'. To this end the Congress lost no time in electing leading men and constitutional experts even though not members of the Congress. Accordingly directions were sent to Provinces to go out of their ranks to choose the best men in the country for the great task of constitution making. This is the best thing they could have done, for it ensures justice and fairplay to all parties and sections even if some intransigent elements should decide to stand out.

This gesture is an assurance that Party prestige would be subordinated to the largest interests of the country. The assembly will therefore become truly representative, enlisting the services of leading Liberals and other thinkers. Hindu and Muslim, who were not in the fighting ranks of the Congress.

Postal Strike called off

As we go to press, we learn with relief and no little satisfaction that the Federation of Post and Telegraph Unions has accepted the fresh proposals made by Government and has called off the strike scheduled to begin at midnight on August 3—4.

This decision was taken at a meeting of the General Council of the Federation presided over by the Acting President Mr. Lahrri Chaudhari.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By 'CHRONICLER'

The Peace Conference

THE twenty one nation Paris Conference was formally opened on July 29 by the French Prime Minister and Foreign Minister M Georges Bidault

Welcoming the delegates on behalf of France, M Bidault said

In the name of the French people and the Republican Government of France I welcome the delegates of the twenty one nations who fought in the war for democracy

For the second time in 30 years France has entertained representatives of the Governments of the world convened to make peace

France is fully aware of the high honour

For the second time France once again finds herself in the forefront of the nations who fought for democracy

M Bidault said that he was convinced that the nations would work together for peace in a good spirit

Warning that Versailles did not prevent the outbreak of another and a worse war M Bidault declared,

the difficulties of peace making are many. It is only right that the decisions reached by the foreign ministers should be submitted to the wider consideration of other countries

This Conference will hold discussions on as wide a basis as possible

This Conference differs vastly in scope from the Versailles Convention held after World War I, for neither the original nor the final treaty drafts will be written there. The Big Four, who have been drafting the treaties for the past several months will write and sign them finally after hearing the views of the other 17 nations

The treaties for Finland, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Italy will not require the signatures of the 17 other Powers, although they will be invited to sign. But even if the smaller nations refuse the treaties will still go into effect

At Versailles, 32 nations participated in the work of treaty writing but the Big Four of the day (Britain, America, France and Italy) did much in private conferences

Trial of Nazi Leaders

Both Sir Hartley Shawcross, the British Attorney General, and Justice Robert Jackson, chief United States Prosecutor, damned the 21 German war leaders arraigned in the dock before the International War Crimes Tribunal at Nuremberg in the most stinging terms when final prosecution speeches opened

Sir Hartley Shawcross, who demanded the maximum penalties for them, indicted them as common murderers responsible for organising the deaths of 12,000,000 persons

Mentioning the death penalty at the beginning of a 50,000 word address, Britain's Chief Prosecutor looked at the men in the dock and declared "they are charged as common murderers. That merits imposition of the supreme penalty". These defendants participated in and are morally guilty of crimes so frightful that imagination staggers back. "These men brought guilt on the German people"

Partition of Palestine

The U S Secretary of State, Mr James F Byrnes, confirmed at a Press conference in Washington that a plan for partition of Palestine has been sponsored by the United States negotiators at present in London and that he was discussing it with President Truman

Mr Byrnes said that the plan had the unanimous support of both American and British delegates to the London conference and had also been approved by the British Cabinet

British Troops to Evacuate Egypt

The British and Egyptian delegations in the treaty revision talks at Alexandria have agreed on the need for co-operation to meet any possible aggression

Discussions on a detailed programme of evacuation are still continuing and in particular on the time required to complete the process, the British informants added. Only exploratory discussions have so far taken place here on the Sudan

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

GANDHIAN WAY By J B Kripalani
Vora & Co Publishers Ltd Kalbadevi
Road Bombay

This is the revised edition of a book which has already run into two editions. Here in this series of articles that comprise the volume the ex Secretary of the Congress who has held that office for over ten years shows with remarkable clarity the dynamics of Gandhiji's political and economic ideas. One of the ablest exponents of Gandhian philosophy he discusses with rare insight and understanding the faith that has moved millions of his countrymen. The Gandhian way is not exactly the way of approved economic or social thought—as understood and practised in the west. It is in many ways novel and revolutionary. But it is essentially the outcome of Indian conditions and Gandhiji has applied it to the service of his countrymen with conspicuous success and efficiency. Mr Kripalani's exposition of the philosophy and technique of non violence is at once interesting and stimulating.

TIBET By David Macdonald Oxford
Pamphlets on Indian Affairs No 30
Price As 6

Though Tibet is an isolated tract with its great altitude and extreme climate it has many fascinating aspects in that it has a peculiar form of Government whose head is His Holiness the Dalai Lama the spiritual and temporal ruler of the people enjoying immense powers. This short and readable pamphlet gives an account of the people their customs and manners the evolution of Lamaism and many other interesting details pleading for the development of the country along its traditional channel.

THE SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE By
K V Krishnaswami Aiyar, Higginbothams
Re 18

This book is of special value in explaining the process and significance of the method adopted in selecting candidates to the constituent assembly. While it is true that the right of decision belongs to the majority the right of representation belongs to all. The method of Proportional Representation ensures this right to the minorities who otherwise may be left out in any system of the straight vote we are familiar with. For a deliberative body designed to reflect in miniature all the elements of the general body in their due proportion the scheme is admirably adapted. Mr Krishnaswami Aiyar explains the meaning and method of the working of the scheme in such a way that the layman can follow his reasoning with perfect ease. The simplicity and clarity of his exposition make it an admirable hand book on the subject for the lay reader.

REMINISCENCES OF KARI MARX 1818 1883
By Paul Lafargue and Wilhelm Liebknecht
People's Publishing House Raj Bhavan
Sandhurst Road Bombay 4 Price 8 As

We get an intimate and lively study of Marx from the pages of this illuminating booklet by Paul Lafargue and Wilhelm Liebknecht two eminent writers who came into contact with Marx. The many anecdotes incidents and letters give us glimpses of Marx as a teacher educator agitator writer politician and revolutionary and his opinions on men and things.

EVERYDAY PSYCHO ANALYSIS By Girindra Shekhar Bose Susil Gupta, 1, Wellesley Street, Calcutta Price Rs 6

In this extremely lucid and ably-written volume the author has taken pains to cover the entire gamut of human emotions—the mind, business, temper, crime, love and dream His exposition of the subject is helpful and his treatment scientific and popular The general reader will find it a great advantage to go through the various cases in this book as it introduces a sort of personal touch between the author and the reader Particular mention should be made of the last lecture which gives a sketch of Freud's life and a short account of the psycho analytical movement

UNTIL BENGAL Poems in War By Harry Milner The Crimson Thorn Poems for Lovers By John Gawsworth In English Fields Poems from Books by John Gawsworth Susil Gupta 1, Wellesley Street, Calcutta Rs 3 each

As a member of the R A F Harry Milner visited India and the above volume contains many of his poems dealing with Indian scenes A staunch believer in poetical freedom, Miller writes with a militant note and prefers the coarse Anglo Saxon word to the ambiguous Latin

Mr Gawsworth's poems marked by a strong individuality exhibit in a high degree lyrical fluency, a vivid power of imagination which not only warms the heart but appeals to the mind also

BOOKS RECEIVED

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BASIC PROBLEMS OF RELIEF, REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH EAST ASIA By J Russell Andrews Indian Council of World Affairs Oxford University Press

INDIA'S POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND ITS INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS By Dr P S Lalanathan Indian Council of World Affairs Oxford University Press Madras and Bombay

GRAND MEN OF BHARAT Ed by Bimanbehari Majumdar and Devantra Kumar, Prasad Publishing House, Bankipore, Patna

TRANSFORM By F P Anna Oxford Pamphlet on Indian Affairs Oxford University Press

ARCHITECTURE By Clancey Bailey Oxford Pamphlet on Indian Affairs, Oxford University Press

A PRETTY TALE OF PAKISTAN By N A Thadani, Bharat Publishing House Karachi

CAREERS By Wahida Aziz Kitab Mahal Allahabad

SOME FEELS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THEIR BEARING ON THE GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN AND THE AGRICULTURAL POPULATION By T S Arava mudra Iyengar B.A., B.L Kumbakonam

KASHMIRI LYRICS Selected and translated by J L Kaul Foreword by Dr A Amarnath Jha M.A. D Litt., Sr nagar, Kashmir

INDIAN STUDIES United Publications Delhi Rs 2

VISION OF MODERN INDIA Being a collection of selections from the writings and speeches of representative Indians of the last fifty years Edited by B I Rallia Ram and Lajpat Rai Vair Institute of Current Affairs, Lahore Rs 2 5

CAPITALISM EXPOSED By Karam Singh M.A., S Chand & Co Delhi

THE SPEAKER OF THE ENGLISH HOUSE OF COMMONS By R N Mathur S Chand & Co, Delhi

INDIA A Re-statement by Sir Reginald Coupland Oxford University Press

POLITICS OF CHARKHIA By J B Kripalani

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS By J B Kripalani Vora & Co, Publishers Bombay 2

SIR CHHOTU RAM APOSTLE OF HINDU MUSLIM UNITY By The Hon Ch Tika Ram M.B.E., Minister of Revenue Punjab Government Lahore

HISTORY IS ON OUR SIDE By Joseph Needham F.R.S., George Allen & Unwin Ltd London

SWISS NEUTRALITY Its History and Meaning By Edgar Bon Jour, George Allen & Unwin Ltd, London

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION Vol XXII Manager of Publications Delhi

PROBLEM OF DEMOCRACY IN INDIA By Shanti Prasad Varma S Chand & Co Delhi

STABILIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES IN INDIA By P C Malhotra S Chand & Co, Fountain Delhi

INDIA'S WAR ECONOMY By Vjaya Dev Misra S Chand & Co Delhi

THE HOUR OF DECISION The Task before the British Cabinet Mission By Principal G N Singh S Chand & Co, Delhi

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- July 1 Atom bomb test at Bilim
—US Famine Mission in Calcutta
- July 2 Emergency debate on Palestine
Big Four agree to make Trieste an international zone
- July 3 Government defeated in Lords on Coal nationalisation Bill
- July 4 Philippine Republic inaugurated
—Care taker Government sworn in
- July 5 Bengal Europeans resolve not to vote in Elections
- July 6 Pandit Nehru takes over charge of Congress Presidentship from Maulana Azad at the AICC meeting Bombay
- July 7 AICC at Bombay ratifies Congress Cabinet's decision
- July 8 Durban Europeans urge enquiry into certain aspects of the department of Justice in connection with Indian resistance struggle
—Africans support Indian resisters
- July 9 Pandit Nehru announces New Congress executive
- July 10 G M Syed asks Sind Governor to call for Hidayatullah's resignation Coalition party being in absolute majority
- July 11 Sikh leaders file nominations for Constituent Assembly
—Postal strike in Bombay Delhi and Calcutta
- July 12 Sind Assembly prorogued Governor saves Hidayatullah Ministry Opposition protest to Viceroy
- July 13 US Loan to Britain approved by Representative Assembly
—Paris talks conclude
- July 14 Madras City workers join Postal strike
—Telegraphists join Postal strike
- July 15 Assam Assembly votes against grouping
- July 16 Sikhs withdraw nominations to Constituent Assembly
—President Truman signs loan Bill
- July 17 All out boycott of Jews in Palestine
—Government of India enforce Trade Embargo against South Africa
- July 18 Adjudicator's report on the dispute between Postal department and its employees published
—Louis Fischer meets Gandhiji at Panchgani
- July 19 Commons debate on India
—Scheduled castes Satyagraha in Poona
- July 20 Pandit Nehru explains Congress stand at Delhi speech
- July 21 Government of India announce new loan at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent
—British HQ blown up by Jews in Palestine
- July 22 Hyderabad reforms announced
- July 23 Madras elects members for Constituent Assembly
—Sympathetic one day strike in Madras
- July 24 Second atom bomb test at Bikini
—Government attitude on Postal workers demand explained
- July 25 The B & C Mills Madras, reopen after 45 days' strike
—Pandit Nehru back in Srinagar, Kashmir
- July 26 World Health organisation sponsored by U N O is started at New York
—Postal arbitration talks fail in Bombay
- July 27 Portuguese Government sending warship to India
—Mr Jinnah attacks Congress at League Council meeting at Bombay
- 1200 Teachers marching in Procession meet Premier of Madras
- July 28 *Com munique* from Alexandria announces gradual withdrawal of British troops from Egypt
- July 29 World Peace Conference meets at Paris
—Muslim League rejects Cabinet plan
- July 30 Mr Bryne opens debate in Paris Conference
—Pandit Nehru meets Viceroy
- July 31 Revised Budget for 1946-47 presented by the Premier in the Madras Legislative Assembly



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE HINDU IDEA OF JUSTICE

In the Hindu's idea of Justice, there is no vengeful spirit whatsoever writes "Kumaraguru" in the *Aryan Path*. His God is not a jealous God like that in the Old Testament. The word "Dharma" is a comprehensive one in Sanskrit.

According to derivation, it is that which sustains the world. It connotes not merely the law of one's being or individual evolution, but means also righteousness and charitable mindedness. The principal meaning, however, in relation to social life, is justice. The enunciation of the principle of Justice dates far back, in the history of India as it is codified in the *Laws of Manu*—

The only firm friend who follows man even after death, is justice; all others are extinct with the body. Where justice is destroyed by iniquity and truth by false evidence, the judges who basely look on without giving redress shall also be destroyed. Justice, being destroyed will destroy being perished, will preserve it must never therefore be violated. Beware, O Judge! lest justice being overturned overturn both us and thyself. (Sir William Jones translation)

The Republic of Plato starts with a discussion on the definition of 'justice' by Socrates and his friends.

Justice in regard to the human individual is finally defined as that virtue of the human soul without which the soul's work cannot be well done and the soul itself cannot be happy. Justice in regard to the State is defined as the virtue which remains after eliminating wisdom, courage and temperance and which enables these qualities to take root in the State and preserves them intact therein.

The appalling general poverty in the world has to be set right. Just stretch a point in Manu's definition of justice or substitute the words "World-State" for the word "State" in Socrates' definition.

Immediately, Roosevelt's first freedom, freedom from hunger, is the result. It is the elementary principle of the dispensation of justice by one man to another that he should feel the right of every individual not to suffer hunger. Plenty of food exists—or at least enough could be produced—for all but it is ill distributed. As Bernard Shaw says in his *Intelli and Woman's Guide to Socialism*, the poverty of man is the consequence of man's weakness or helplessness. The Law has given man some liberty, but has not established justice in this world.

GANDHISM

Prof. Nirmal Bose, concluding an elaborate study of Gandhism in the columns of the *Saturday Mail*, observes that the supreme lesson which Gandhi has drawn from history is that there is a benevolent law operating behind universal processes.

Many may call it the Unknowable, but it is there all the same. Under the influence of that Law, mankind has progressed in course of time towards a deeper realization of the essential unity of life. Barriers between communities have also been gradually breaking down.

The chief purpose of human life is the realization of that Law, and it is then the duty of every individual to set his life in accordance with the Law. He has to help in the historical process of social progress.

If then, we wish to break down narrownesses which cramp the growth of human life—narrownesses which might have been inherited from the past or are a result of bringing up under institutions handed down from the past—our method of change should also be informed by a higher sense of brotherhood among men. While trying to non-co-operate with institutions, we should bear no ill will against our opponents, but should patiently seek to convert them through self-suffering. Finally our opponents have to be turned into willing partners with us in creating a new order of life based upon a sense of human unity.

The law of manual labour is the first moral law of life, all men have to share in common toil for the preservation of life. Such toil will deepen the feeling of fellowship among men.

A civilization based on equality is possible only if all men recognize the law of bread labour and also their talents, whether moral or material, whether self-acquired or inherited according to the existing laws of inheritance at the disposal of the community for common human welfare.

THE PROBLEM OF GREAT CITIES

Oswald Spengler declared that the great city was the disease of civilization. When the great city or metropolis appeared to feed its cancerous growth upon the helpless countryside, it was the sure sign that the end of civilization was approaching, writes John Haynes Holmes in *Unity*.

To prevent the appearance of great cities or to extirpate them when they appear would seem to be the answer to our besetting question as to how to save society from decay and dissolution. It may be that this answer never yet voluntarily accepted will now be forced upon us by the atomic bomb. Already an engineer has risen up to tell us that there is no defence against the bomb except to go underground. If war is to continue then our great cities must be abandoned and their populations scattered. Huge excavations must be made under our mountain ranges and our industries there buried away. It would seem to be easier and less costly to do away with war. But man has never been willing to forego this ghastly luxury. Now he has in his hands the weapon of final and total destruction and there remains nothing to do but disperse our vast concentrations of human beings and thus begin anew. But where are we going to find mountains high enough or dingles deep enough to protect mankind from the atomic bomb? The present explosive is nothing—only one tenth of one per cent of the energy hidden in uranium 235. A French physicist has declared that the ultimate bomb will disperse energy 200 000 000 times that of the highest explosive now known. This should be sufficient to split the planet. So that our mighty caves beneath the mountains might well become our graves. But putting aside such cataclysmic speculation it would seem to be at least elementary that our present cities and industrial centres must be abandoned. Look at what we were able to do to German cities and centers with ordinary bombs. A whole nation was turned into an ash heap. Now add to that atomic bomb—and what will there be left? A new age has indeed begun. This atomic age seems now only to be a threat of such proportions as to be paralyzing. But perhaps—so strange are the ways of fortune—it may bring healing and redemption. The elimination of our great cities hitherto our curse may be a symbol of change which will in the end deliver us.

One thing is certain, he adds—we cannot continue to live as we have been living.

"We must begin all over again. A new system of thought and life must match the new and awful power now suddenly in our control. Time seems as though to pause these days, to see what man will do

FREEDOM, INDIA'S GREATEST NEED

"If creative life and individual vision are to be restored to their proper place, this political obsession should cease, but it will not cease until India becomes free and self governing", observes Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in *Asia and the Americas*. He goes on to say

"If you watch closely and catch in repose a face of any intelligent young Indian, man or woman, you will see there a shade which is not quite natural to youth, an under current of sorrow that he or she belongs to a country, vast, populous and ancient, that is still a subject nation. It is there, that detached impersonal shadow, and will be there as long as the present condition continues. The Indian is wounded in his spirit, and you cannot heal the wound unless India gets self government and a sovereign status consistent with her obligations to the community of nations. Only then will it be possible for India to have a government representative of the will of the people, a government which will be eager and courageous enough to impose heavy taxation, to disturb the established economic interests and to break the habits of mind bred of inertia and ignorance. Instead of referring repeatedly to the spectre of anarchy and famine which will overtake the land when once British control is withdrawn, to the immense responsibilities to the masses, to the historic obligations to the Princes to the disagreements among the principal elements of India's national life—which are indeed there though they are not altogether of India's making—Britain should brace herself up to a great decision, ethically right and politically wise, and set up a free, undivided India with liberty to bring about a peaceful social revolution and economic reconstruction which will give Indians social justice and individual liberty."

HINDUS AND MUSLIMS

To Americans probably the Hindu Muslim question represents a disunity so great as to preclude the possibility of a peaceful, independent India for the present. But Mr. Morroe Berger, writing in the *Voice of India*, makes certain observations often overlooked by the partisans of all sides:

1. Despite the apparently growing strength of the Muslim League, religion is declining in influence in India as in other parts of the world. The Muslim League and Hindu Mahasabha, while built on religious affiliation, are both political and not religious organizations.

2. The division between Hindus and Muslims has undoubtedly been aggravated willingly or otherwise, by British policy. It was the British who in 1909 first instituted the system of separate electorates of Hindus and Muslims. Instead of trying to remove religion from politics in accord with democratic practice, the British helped strengthen its influence in affairs of state. In considering this development, however, we must not make the mistake of identifying religion with morality.

3. It is often pointed out by Indians who want to minimize the importance of the differences between Hindus and Muslims that the two groups live together peacefully in the villages and cities. The political struggle between the Indian Congress and the Muslim League is said to be without effect upon the daily lives of ordinary Hindus and Muslims. This is perhaps true, but it must also be pointed out that at the lower levels of existence in India hardly any political struggle has an appreciable

effect upon the people, they are mainly concerned with the always immediate task of staying alive.

4. The Hindu Muslim differences may have been artificially stimulated, yet at present they are differences nonetheless. This does not mean that they cannot be resolved. I believe Indians of all kinds have enough in common to maintain a unified state and nation. British contributions to the settlement of the Hindu Muslim issues have not been so salutary as to make us doubt the ability of the two groups to make a peaceful adjustment between themselves. A minority ninety million strong, such as the Muslims are, need not fear too much that the majority will prove to be oppressive.

5. Extremists in both camps like to claim the other is not fit for democratic government. The Muslims point to the Hindu caste system and the Hindus point to the aggressive nature of Islam. Both charges seem to be formally cogent, but undoubtedly the caste system is weakening in its political effects and Hindu leaders have been hitting at it for years, and the aggressiveness of Islam, since the end of the caliphate in 1924, is largely theoretical. Both religions, in fact, must either change further or continue to loosen their hold on the people in certain secular aspects of life if democracy is to grow and become strong in India.

6. Finally, it is not necessary, to solve the Hindu Muslim problem, for the two groups to merge their cultures or religions, as some writers have claimed. All that is required is mutual toleration, not only among the masses, where this toleration has existed for centuries, but also among the politically conscious Indians. Muslim leaders apparently fear a highly nationalist Indian state, but they wrongly tend to look upon it as *Hindu* rather than *Indian*.

CONGRESS PROVINCES

After six years of war, wilderness, and weariness writes "ID" in the *XX Century* the Congress waves its banner again triumphantly and a trifle gaily in the Provinces, except in Sind at one extreme and Bengal at the other "The Punjab is, however, something of a neutral zone where it is neither helpless nor supreme for on its slippery soil it does not run the whole show but is in partnership with the Unionist firm. In the rest of British India, its writ runs through. At the top in the North West Frontier the redoubtable Dr Khan Saheb holds the fort breathing defiance at Mr Jinnah and his hordes. In the United Provinces—one of India's key provinces—the sedate Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant fills the stage with trusted and powerful colleagues like Dr Kailash Nath Katju, Mr Rafi Ahmad Kidwai and Mrs Vijay Lakshmi Pandit. In Assam Mr Bardoloi, in Bihar Mr Sri Krishna Sinha, and in C P Pandit Ravi Prasad Shukla are back again in the saddle. Bombay, the nerve centre of high politics, is safe—even strong—in the hands of Mr Bal Gangadhar Kher who is both a trusted lieutenant and a tried Premier. Orissa is blissfully free from extraneous influence and is in the palm of Mr Hari Kishan Mehtab who brings to it the prestige of his long association with the Working Committee. Madras which is so much in the picture because of the controversy raised over Mr Rajagopalachari's leadership, has turned unexpectedly militant and has at its head that genial old fighter Mr T Prakasam who commands public attention, despite all the cold shouldering that the High Command has a bit thoughtlessly given him.

This is in broad outline the story of what are termed the Congress Provinces—and it is thus in Madras alone, of all provinces the old team could not be replanted.

DANGER OF DELAY IN INDIA

If the British fail to find a solution to the problem of handing over smoothly to Indians in India, there may be a revolution to drive them out—and this will probably bring the Congress Socialist Party out on top, says Major Wyatt, Adviser to the British Cabinet Mission when they were in India, in an article in the *Left-Wing* weekly, *New Statesman and Nation*.

"After a revolution there would be no chance of friendly relations between Britain and India", Major Wyatt adds.

Communal civil war would draw on for years and trail off into an uneasy stalemate while millions starved and the hope of economic development was put off indefinitely. The first round of the fight between the Right and the Left would almost certainly be won by potentially Fascist elements."

"Indians" says Major Wyatt "are awed by the prospect of running this vast country, possibly without British support and they cannot feel confident in their ability to do it, unless they get a government on conditions favourable to their own particular viewpoint."

Saying that Indians in their hesitation in accepting independence when it is so near their grasp, appear as irresponsible. Major Wyatt says "To some extent Indian political leaders are irresponsible. The definition of irresponsibility is being without responsibility. The only cure for it is to see that they get responsibility without delay."

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

HYDERABAD REFORMS

The principal features of the revised constitutional reforms for Hyderabad State were announced on July 21. The revised constitution provides for increase in the strength of the State Legislative Assembly so as to provide for a majority of elected members. The powers and functions of the Assembly have also been enlarged. The Nizam will appoint as soon as possible two elected members of the Assembly, one Hindu and one Muslim, as members of his Executive Council.

The new Legislative Assembly will consist of 132 members of whom 76 will be elected, 43 will be nominated and 13 will be appointed members. Out of the 119 elected and nominated members there will be 53 Muslims, 2 Christians and 1 Parsee. Of the 76 elected members 32 will represent agriculture, 20 will represent owners and tenants of lands and buildings, 4 will represent holders of 'samasthans' and 'jagirs' and 4 will represent Labour. Out of the remaining 16 elected seats, two have been allotted to commerce, two to industries, two to banking, two to the legal profession, two to local self government institutions, two to the medical profession, two to graduates and two to 'maashadars', (persons who are in enjoyment of land or cash grants from the State Exchequer).

Out of 43 nominated seats five have been allotted to five important estates in the Dominions. Of the remaining 38 seats, at least half the number will be filled by non-officials. Among the interests which will be represented through nomination are women, the co-operative movement, journalists, the university, depressed classes, Logayats, Christians, Sikhs and Parsees.

Mysore

MYSORE'S POST WAR SCHEMES

The Co ordination and Finance Committee of the Mysore Economic Conference, at its recent meeting held under the chairmanship of Sir Albion Banerji, approved Post war Schemes relating to Education, Public Health, Communication etc, to be included in the five year programme.

The raising of the Women's Intermediate College at Mysore to a first-grade residential College and opening of two more Intermediate Colleges in addition to those sanctioned for Hassan and Davangere, at an approximate cost of Rs 3 lakhs non recurring and Rs 9.70 lakhs recurring in 5 years.

A further development of the Boy Scout movement with a view to raising the number of scouts from 30,000 to 64,000, involving an additional grant of Rs 60,000 recurring.

CIVIL LIBERTIES IN MYSORE

A non official resolution moved by Mr K Hanjerappa (Congress) recommending to the Government of Mysore that suitable legislation be enacted so as to empower the High Court of Mysore to issue prerogative writs of Habeas Corpus, Certiorari and Mandamus, was discussed in the Mysore Legislative Council last month. The resolution was supported by all non officials including nominated members of the House.

BAN ON KAMALA DEVI

The four year old order prohibiting Mrs Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya from entering the state has been withdrawn by the Mysore Government. This announcement was made by Mr O Pulla Reddi, Minister for Revenue in the Mysore Legislative Council.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE DEWAN ON DUTY OF STATES

Dealing with the recent political negotiations in Delhi the Dewan of Travancore Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar who presided over the Nanjinad Co operators Conference at Nagercoil said, that whatever be the final result of the negotiations one thing was clear namely that if not to day at least in the near future India was bound to achieve independence. It is ours to day for the taking but by reason of our differences we do not take but when ever India accepts independence everyone should realise that at a most critical juncture in India's history the Princely Order rose to the occasion. Although they had derived certain advantages—along with incidental disadvantages—from Paramountcy they had urged that Paramountcy shall not survive in an independent India. That again did not mean that Indian States numbering 561 wanted to remain absolutely independent. They wanted to come into line with British India and enter into negotiations agreements and treaties with the Central Government and see to it that they were not a stumbling block but helped in the general progress.

THORIUM DEPOSITS IN TRAVANCORE

'The Government of Travancore do not propose to hand over the control of thorium deposits in the State to any out side agency,' said Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore in an interview when in New Delhi last.

The Dewan explained that for over 20 years thorium bearing monazite ilmenite had been exported mostly to America. But the importance of Thorium itself was not realised until the Atomic Bomb was discovered. The Government of Travancore were wholly co operating with the Government of India in dealing with this matter he added.

Baroda

BARODA PREMIER'S ASSURANCE

An assurance that "Baroda State subjects shall not go unrepresented in the Constituent Assembly if Baroda be given any seats" was given by the Prime Minister of Baroda, Sir B L Mitter, addressing the Budget Session of the Dhara Sabha (State Legislative Assembly) on July 22.

Sir B L Mitter said the question as to how the 93 seats allotted to the Indian States would be distributed among them had yet to be decided. It would be a matter for negotiation between a Committee to be appointed by the British Indian Members of the Constituent Assembly and the State Negotiating Committee.

It is almost certain that the question will be raised as to the representation of the States subjects and, a further question will be raised as to the eligibility of States which have no representative institutions. The terms and conditions on which the State representatives may participate on the Constituent Assembly are yet unknown and uncertain. Whatever they be, the intention of His Highness and of the Government of Baroda is that the Dhara Sabha will be consulted at a special session if necessary.

The Prime Minister announced that he had appointed a Committee to advise him on the lines on which the State Constitution could be liberalised, pending the framing of the Indian Constitution.

Indore

INDORE PRAJAMANDAL'S DEMAND

A resolution asking the Indore Government to establish Responsible Government in the State within a year was passed at the first meeting of the newly elected general council of the Indore Rajya Prajamandal. Mr Rameshwar Daval Tolsa, presided.

Kashmir

KASHMIR GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

"Kashmir is renowned for its beauty throughout the world and I, least of all, would wish to deny to any person free access to it. But if we are convinced that such access in any case will lead to strife and disorder and consequent blood shed amongst my people, it is our bounden duty to take all steps necessary to avert those consequences and this duty we will continue to discharge at all costs. But when we feel satisfied that any visit will not lead to such consequences no let or hindrance will be imposed declared His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir at a Special Durbar held at Gulab Bhawan last month.

His Highness, proceeding observed "We look forward to taking our due place in the new constitutional structure of India, whereby we hope that India will be able to take its proper place as a great nation among the brotherhood of nations and to wield great influence in the affairs of the world, thus adding to human civilisation those aspects of our great culture which will help to solve the problems of mankind."

"But our concern for the progress of India" the Maharaja went on to say "does not imply acceptance by us of dictation in our internal affairs, particularly when such a course entails interference with the full and free operation of the law and thereby endangers security and the orderly course of life to which every peaceful and lawabiding citizen is entitled."

Since the above declaration was made, the ban on Pandit Nehru's entry into Kashmir has been withdrawn.

Cochin

INCOME TAX RATES

The Cochin Government will introduce a bill to amend the Cochin Income tax Act at the forthcoming budget session of the Cochin Legislative Council.

The Government are of the view that compared with the rates in British India and other places, the rates of income tax and super tax levied in Cochin are low. The Government have decided to introduce the amending bill with a view to increasing the rates and to exempting 1/5th of earned income, subject to a maximum of Rs 4,000 from income tax and super tax.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE RATES

Orders will be shortly issued by the Government, fixing the minimum dearness allowance for Government servants at Rs 20, and sanctioning a dearness allowance of 22½ per cent for employees drawing Rs 100 and more.

It is also understood that war allowances granted to some officers will be suspended, and that all of them will be entitled to dearness allowance at the rate of 22½ per cent.

Nawanagar

"GUIDEWAYS" FOR NAWANAGAR

The opening ceremony of "Guideways" a one rail, cement track, rubber tyred system of mechanical transport, was performed recently at Jamnagar by H H the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar.

The New system, which has been invented by Mr Clifford Shelton is intended to provide cheap and economical transport facilities for villages.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

SATYAGRAHA IN SOUTH AFRICA

Mrs Sarojini Naidu moving the resolution on South Africa at the Bombay session of the A I C C said that the seed of Satyagraha Mahatma Gandhi had sown many years ago on a much smaller issue had grown into a full fledged tree

The Satyagraha movement had been started by South African Indians to fight racial arrogance and animosity. It was a question which affected all the coloured peoples of the world. Had it not been for the recent constitutional negotiations in India which took away the time of the All India Congress Committee for two days the South African issue would have assumed paramount importance and would have taken all the time of the committee. India existed so far as Indians in South Africa are concerned only in their imagination. Their ways of life were mostly western and yet they had been treated with great discrimination and they were called coolies.

The people of India who had no Government of their own yet were unable to help their own kith and kin in South Africa except by giving them moral support. Indians in South Africa knew the limitations and were anxiously looking forward to the day when India would be free.

Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant seconding the resolution declared that the question of Indians in South Africa was not a local question but had in it the germs of a global conflict.

U. S. A.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION ACT

The news of the passing into law of the Indian Immigration and Naturalisation Bill by the United States Legislature has been received with great satisfaction in India says a Press Note. The Foreign Secretary has written to the Commissioner of the United States of America to India in the following terms:

I am directed to say that the Government of India have learnt with profound satisfaction that the Indian Immigration and Naturalisation Bill has now become law. They wish to convey to the Government of the United States their appreciation of the persistent and active support of the Administration without which the happy result could not have been achieved. The new measure will be welcomed by all sections of opinion in India as fresh evidence of the desire of the Government and people of the United States to accord to India equality of treatment with the other free nations of the world.

Malaya

LAND FOR MALAYAN INDIANS

Malayan Indians who wish to settle down on the peninsula may apply for homestead lots of three acres as the result of successful negotiations between Malayan Union authorities and the Malayan Indian Relief Committee. Relief Committee officials announced. After three years of development settlers will be able to request title to their homestead lots without charge.

The scheme is part of the industrial and agricultural programme charted by Pandit Nehru when he set up the Committee and became its titular chairman.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

PARTY POSITION IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The elections to the constituent Assembly concluded on July 24 Congress has emerged with an absolute majority, having secured 207 seats in a House of 389 including the Indian States

The party position is Congress 207 Muslim League 73 Independent (general) 9 and Independent (Muslims) 3 The four seats allotted to the Sikhs have not been filled in yet and the election to the 93 seats for the Indian States will follow at a later stage

Of the 216 General seats excluding the States, Congress secured 207 losing only nine Among, the non Congress nominees elected from General seats are Dr B R Ambedkar, Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava, Sir Padampat Singhania and the Maharajadhi raja of Darbhanga

The Muslim League lost only five of the Muslim seats, which went to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Mr Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Mr Fazlul Huq and one Unionist from the Punjab

The Communist Party is represented by a lone member from Bengal

All top political leaders are got to the Constituent Assembly besides eminent jurists lawyers philosophers and industrialists The Congress in its desire to see that the country's constitution is drawn up by the best men in the land went out of the party to find talent

THE A I C C DECISIONS

On July 7 the A I C C at Bombay passed by an overwhelming majority Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's resolution seeking ratification of the Working Committee's resolution of June 26 204 members voting in favour of the resolution while 51 members voted against it The declaration of result by the President was greeted with cheers and applause

Gandhiji earlier addressed the A I C C, in a 60 minute impassioned speech calling upon Congressmen to give a fair and full trial to the Constituent Assembly scheme and make the best out of it He had no doubt that if the task was properly approached they could produce a Swadeshi constitution for India

Gandhiji as also Maulana Azad and Pandit Nehru, pointed out that in case the proposed Constituent Assembly was unable really to produce something good for India then it was open to Congressmen to reject the whole thing

The A I C C also considered the situation in South Africa and unanimously passed a resolution denouncing the anti Indian measures there and declaring their sympathy with and offering all possible support for the Indians settled in that country The resolution was moved by Mrs Sarojini Naidu and seconded by Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant

Utterances of the Day

MR ALEXANDER ON INDIA'S FUTURE

The Indian people have been at last persuaded that 'we have no desire for them to live in anything but complete freedom and such independence as they choose within or without the British Commonwealth declared the First Lord of the Admiralty Mr A V Alexander at Brighton on July 6

Mr Alexander said I believe that if they will now co-operate in the working of the Constituent Assembly the Members of which are to be elected this month and thereafter make their own constitution there is no reason why that great continent of 400 000 000 people should not become one of the outstanding powers in the world and I hope and believe a great power for good in the general history of mankind

PANDIT NEHRU ON CONGRESS STAND

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru speaking at the Ramila grounds Delhi on July 21, said that circumstances had forced the British Government to agree to India's demand of summoning a Constituent Assembly for framing a constitution for a free and independent India. The Congress was entering the Constituent Assembly with the object of working it and if they found that they were unable to achieve their purpose they would withdraw from it and wreck it.

If the Constituent Assembly was once set up continued Pandit Nehru it would become a completely independent organisation. It was his firm conviction that after the setting up of the Constituent Assembly no outside power could destroy or crush it.

LAWRENCE AND CRIPPS ON INDIAN NEGOTIATIONS

'The next stage will be for the Viceroy to resume negotiations at the earliest practicable moment with the two major parties for the formation of an Interim Government said Lord Pethick Lawrence in the House of Lords on July 18 reviewing the Delhi negotiations -

Describing the purpose of the Constituent Assembly, Lord Pethick Lawrence said the various parties

can put forward their views as to how the Assembly should conduct its business but having regard to the statement of May 16 and the Constituent Assembly elected in accordance with it they cannot of course go outside the terms of what has been agreed to.

Dealing with the negotiations in New Delhi for the formation of the Interim Government Lord Pethick Lawrence said it had been made clear to Mr Jinnah that 'neither the Viceroy nor the Mission could accept his claim to a monopoly of Muslim appointments

Sir Stafford Cripps who opened the debate in the Commons said the members of the Mission saw representatives of both parties shortly before they left India and they stated to them quite categorically that it was their intention to go into the Constituent Assembly with the object of making it work. Sir Stafford paid a tribute to all with whom they negotiated in India and said that there was trust in the sincerity of the British Government which had formerly been absent and desire and willingness for co-operation in the solution of India's problems. He said

'Success though not yet by any means certain is within the grasp of ourselves and our Indian friends and we may hope that in the realization of the remaining difficulties may be overcome

NEW CONGRESS EXECUTIVE

The Congress President, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has officially announced the names of members of the new Congress Working Committee. In a statement, Pandit Nehru says 'Under Article 20 of the Congress constitution, I nominate the following members of the Working Committee

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad,
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Dr Rajendra Prasad,
Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan,
Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant,
Mr C Rajagopalachari,
Mr Rafi Ahmed Kidwai,
Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose (Bengal),
Shrimati Kamaladevi (Karnataka)
Rao Saheb Patwardhan (Maharashtra)
Mr Fakhruddin Ahmed (Assam),
Sardar Pratap Singh (Punjab),
Shrimati Mridula Sarabhai and
Dr Balakrishna V Keskar

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel will continue to act as Treasurer and Shrimati Mridula Sarabhai and Dr Balakrishna Keskar will be the General Secretaries

LIBERAL FEDERATION'S DEMAND

The Council of the National Liberal Federation of India which met in Poona on July 21 under the presidentship of Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, passed a resolution welcoming the formation of a Constituent Assembly to frame the constitution of free India but deploring that the scheme for the establishment of an Interim Coalition Government at the Centre had failed to materialise

CENTRAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Governor-General in Council has announced the abolition of the Department of Planning and Development with effect from the afternoon of July 4. Its work will be distributed as under

(A) To the Industries and Supplies Department (1) Planning and development of industries generally, (2) Planning and development of industries (Federal aspect), (3) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Board of Scientific and Industrial Research, Industrial Research Utilisation Committee and Directorate of Scientific and Industrial Research,

(B) To the Works, Mines and Power Department—Mineral Planning and

(C) To the Co-ordination Committee Council General co-ordination of post war planning and development

LEAGUE & THE CABINET PLAN

The Muslim League Council meeting at Bombay unanimously decided on July 29 to reverse its Delhi decision accepting the Cabinet Mission's scheme embodied in the State Paper of May 16 last. The Council's decision, which means that the Muslim League will not participate in the proposed Constituent Assembly, was taken on a resolution placed before it by the Working Committee of the League

By another resolution the League plans starting direct action to achieve Pakistan and Mr Jinnah has been authorised to take such steps as are necessary

The resolution regarding direct action 'inter alia' says, 'As a token of their deep resentment at the attitude of the British towards the Muslims the Mussalmans have been asked to renounce forth with the titles conferred by this alien Government.

Educational

SARDAR PATEL ON NATIONAL EDUCATION

'Our educational system is not Indian. We have yet to make it Indian. Very soon when India has a national Government, will have to give education through the medium of our own language. We have to write our own history. And above all we have to train our young men to be the leaders of international opinion of the future', said Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel inaugurating a new college at Andheri, a suburb of Bombay.

In our higher education Sardar Patel added, Britishers have emphasized the use of English. Our students have to spend years and years of their life to learn how to speak and write English correctly. This is, in a sense the badge of our slavery. But an independent India must speak and think in its own national language. As soon as a national Government comes one of the first problems will be to increase the scope of the national language in our educational system, particularly our universities.

Sardar Patel said that he was glad to find that the Bhavan had on its programme the use of the Rashtabhasha as its medium. 'The university courses are all prescribed in English and therefore I realise that it is difficult to introduce Rashtabhasha. But it is the duty of every student in the Bhavan's college that he should master the Rashtabhasha and that all functions should as far as possible be conducted in the Rashtabhasha or in any of the Indian languages. We cannot have national unity and we cannot understand the cultural background unless our best thoughts are expressed through our own language.'

NATIONAL MILITARY ACADEMY

The foundation of the proposed National Military Academy to be established at Khandakwasla near Poona, is likely to be laid in winter and it is stated in informed quarters that the Commander in chief is very keen on making a very early beginning of the proposed Academy. It is understood that provision for residence and training of 2400 potential military officers is to be made at Khandakwasla and as soon as the quarters are ready, both for the students and the staff, the first batch of about 600 students will receive training for regular Commissioned Officers posts.

ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE

English will hereafter occupy a place only second to the regional language in the curriculum of secondary school education in the province.

This is the effect of an order understood to have been passed by Government, that henceforth the original language will be the first language. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to revise the rules accordingly.

AIM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The hope that India would be placed on the map of the world as a free nation in a short time and that Indians would represent her in international councils was expressed by Mr K M Munshi declaring open the Bharatiya Vidhya Bhavan's Megji Mathradas Arts College and Narrondas Manordas Institute of Science at Nav Gujarat Andheri.

REVERSIONER'S RIGHT UNDER HINDU LAW

The purpose of the Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Act of 1929, as it affects Hindus subject to Mitakshara law, was defined by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on July 16.

Dismissing an appeal filed by Lala Dunichand and others against the judgment by the Allahabad High Court in February, 1941, the Judicial Committee, consisting of Lord Macmillan, Dr. M. R. Jayakar and Sir John Beaumont, observed that the Hindu Law of Inheritance Act, as amended, introduced "certain persons as heirs, who had no such place according to ordinary interpretation of Mitakshara law."

They added that the Act was one of the several measures enacted during recent times in a reformatory spirit with a view to bringing ancient rules of Hindu succession into conformity with what were regarded as changing conditions and sentiments of present-day Hindu society.

The Committee further said that the Act, therefore, selected certain relatives and gave them a preferential place in the order of succession, irrespective of sex, over more remote relatives.

Referring to the point at issue in the appeal, the Committee held that during the lifetime of a widow, reversioners in Hindu law had no vested interest in the estate, but had mere *spes successionis*, or chance of succession, which was a purely contingent right, which might or might not accrue.

BILL TO PREVENT UNEQUAL MARRIAGES

In the Bombay Legislative Assembly Mrs. Lalavati Munshi moved on July 16 for introduction of her Bill "to provide for the prevention of unequal marriages in the province of Bombay." According to the Bill, an "unequal marriage" means "a marriage between a male of more than 45 years of age and a female of less than 18 years of age."

Leave to introduce the Bill was granted by an overwhelming majority, only League members saying, "No."

SEPARATION OF JUDICIARY

Mr. K. Rajah Aiyar, Advocate-General, will be the Chairman of the Committee of officials and non officials which the Government of Madras have decided to appoint to examine the proposals received for the reform of the District Magistracy by the separation of judicial from its executive functions.

The three non-official members of the Committee, it is learnt, will be Messrs. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, V. L. Ethiraj and Pappu Somasundaram, President of the Madras Advocates' Association.

LAKSHMIKANTAN CASE

The Privy Council Bench consisting of Lord Macmillan, Dr. Jayakar and Sir V. Beaumont has granted leave to appeal in the Madras journalist stabbing case. The plaintiffs Messrs. N. S. Krishnan and M. K. Thiagaraja Bhagavathar, were represented by Mr. D. N. Prithi, K. C.

Insurance

CRITICISM OF INSURANCE ACT

The Sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the Bombay Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd was held on Saturday the 13th July 1946 at the Society's Registered Office when Mr Madhavlal M Bhatt J P, presided. The meeting adopted the Revenue Account and Balance Sheet for the year 1945 as also the Valuation Report for the period ended 31st December 1946.

Referring to the larger issues Mr Bhatt lodged his emphatic protest against the amendment to Section 4 (1) of the Insurance Act 1938 whereby Co-operative Life Offices were precluded from writing Policies for less than Rs 1000. He uttered a warning that to allow the amendment to remain on the Statute Book would lead to the interests of the masses being disregarded without any way benefiting anybody and kill the very basis of Co-operative Insurance.

Referring to the Second Insurance Amending Bill and particularly to the two important provisions therein namely (1) limitations of expenditure of Life Offices and (2) further restrictions on investment of funds he suggested that it would be better to make it obligatory on Life Offices to transfer a certain portion of the premium income and interest to life fund each year. As regards investments he cautioned the Government not to place any further restrictions as otherwise the day would not be so far off when it would be very difficult for the Life Offices to maintain the solvent

position of the funds, thanks to the very investments.

He appealed to the Government to exempt Life Insurance from the levying of duty contemplated under the proposed Estates Duty Bill as otherwise the object of Government in granting exemptions under the Income tax Act to premia on life policies would be frustrated.

B M BIRLA ON INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

While I welcome its proposals for the limitation of over all expenses and preventing the interlocking of capital, some of the provisions of the Insurance (Second) Amendment Bill are of such a drastic nature that they are likely to have a very adverse effect on the Indian insurance companies particularly the restrictions regarding investments which are extremely onerous' observed Mr B M Birla, while addressing the tenth annual general meeting of the Ruby General Insurance Company Limited at Calcutta on July 13.

If the present proposals are enforced continued Mr Birla over and above the existing restrictions compelling 55 per cent of the Policy liabilities of the Life Department to be invested in Government and Approved Securities the companies will be left with no initiative in the matter of investments and make life insurance too costly for the ordinary man. No legislation should be so framed that while aiming at preventing certain malpractices among certain sections it becomes a handicap on the real progress and bonafide of the large majority.

INDIA & WORLD MONETARY FUND

Mr Ananthasayanam Iyengar, M.L.A (Central), interviewed at Madras by the A P I said that he was considering whether it might not be desirable to put off contribution to the Monetary Fund of the World Bank until such time as a National Government had been installed at the Centre and some tangible arrangement had been made regarding the liquidation of India's huge Sterling Balances with England

Asked about the Railway Finance Committee meeting, he said that it was meeting for placing orders for 100 and odd steam engines and a good number of boilers and wagons from foreign countries. He was of the opinion that it would be inadvisable to place orders for them elsewhere before all possibilities of manufacturing them locally were explored and exhausted, lest they should be blocking the future construction programme in this country

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LOAN

The Government of India 2½ per cent loan 1961 will open on August 1, 1946 and close on the same day without notice. The loan is limited to Rs 35 crores (approximately)

The issue price is Rs 100 per Rs 100 (nominal)

Subscriptions will be received in cash or cheque

Applications will be received from 10 a.m. standard time at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India Bombay, Calcutta Delhi and Madras and at branches of the Imperial Bank of India at other places.

PROSPECTS OF INDIA'S TRADE WITH JAPAN

The question of rehabilitation of Indian trade with Japan is understood to have been actively taken by the Government of India's representative in the Far Eastern Commission with the United States Government as well as with the Occupation authorities in Japan. The Government of India, it is learnt, are endeavouring to secure resumption of export of cotton to Japan, and they have asked for mill stores, textile machinery, silk and other consumer goods in exchange

In view of the uncertain conditions still prevailing in Japan, it is not likely that the trade between the two countries will, for some time to come, have to be carried on a Government to Government basis, although the Government of India are anxious that private trade should participate as soon as this may be possible

The occupation authorities do not also appear to be in favour of an early return of Indian evacuees to Japan. The Government of India are, however, believed to be making efforts to arrange for a representative group of evacuee merchants to proceed to Japan to inspect their properties and to protect their interests. Claims for compensation on account of damage to Indian properties are being registered with the Government of India's Director of Commercial Intelligence at Calcutta. The settlement of these claims must, however, await international agreement on the question of reparations.

Women's Page

CHARTER OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Mrs Hansa Mehta President, All India Women's Conference and India's delegate to the UNO Commission to draw up a charter of women's rights, at a public meeting at Bombay on July 11 said that unless all the countries in the world had complete freedom and independence, it would be difficult for the United Nations Organisation to see that the charter of women's fundamental rights was put into effect by the Governments of various countries of the world

Mrs Hansa Mehta said that the charter of fundamental rights of women has been drawn up by a sub committee composed of delegates of nine countries which were members of the United Nations Organisation. The sub committee had now been turned into a full Commission, and the charter drawn up by the sub committee covered a wide field of social economic, political, educational and human rights. The Commission would place the charter before the Economic and Social Council of the UNO. But, the speaker thought the charter would be passed by the United Nations Organisation itself and the charter would be the basis on which a 'new order' would be built up all over the world

The speaker, however, pointed out that there were many countries of the East and India was one of them which were under domination by foreign countries. These countries had no national Government nor did they enjoy democracy or sovereignty. It was therefore difficult for such countries to put into effect the charter of fundamental rights of women drawn up by the Commission

INDIAN WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

Mr G V Mavlankar, President of the Central Legislative Assembly, addressing the thirtieth Convocation of the Shrimati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Indian Women's University, pleaded for the imparting of education to women best suited for the development of their special faculties

Dewan Bahadur Hiralal L. Kaji, Vice-Chancellor of the University, declared that while grants and public support were a pressing necessity of the University, its most important need was statutory recognition. However the Women's University had received recognition in Europe and America and many of its students had secured degrees in foreign Universities

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR U S WOMEN

The U S Senate on July 19, rejected the proposed constitutional amendment to establish equal rights for women

The vote came after the sponsors of the amendment failed in a last minute move to salvage the measure by sending it back to the Senate Judiciary Committee for possible re submission to the Senate. The measure proposed to write into the constitution a new article which said "Equality of rights under law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any other state on account of sex"

The issue has been plaguing Congress for the past 23 years. Opponents said the amendment would eradicate many local laws which were enacted for the specific protection of women and particularly, in connection with occupational hazards

WAVELL PRESIDENT OF KIPLING SOCIETY

Lord Wavell has become President of the Kipling Society

No more appropriate successor to the late Major General Dunsterville, who was the original of Stalky, could be named, says a *Yorkshire Post* correspondent. For not only is Lord Wavell now Viceroy of the land of Kipling's birth, but he combines Stalky's gift for soldiering with Beetle's love of letters

Lord Wavell is however, an ardent admirer of Kipling's works and one of the founder members of the Kipling Society. After his triumph at Sidi Barrani the Society sent him a telegram of congratulation on "Tabaqui's discomfiture". Lord Wavell showed both his knowledge of Kipling and his appreciation of the allusion by his reply "Hope Shere Khan's skin will soon be on the council rock."

For the benefit of those who are not as familiar as Lord Wavell with the "Jungle Books," I had better explain that Tabaqui is a jackal who toadies to Shere Khan a tiger, until Mowgli kills Shere Khan and hangs his skin on the council rock of the wolf pack.

The allusions to Mussolini and Hitler are obvious.

BRITISH NEWSPAPER CHAINS

The formal demand by Labour backbenchers for official investigations into control and ownership of the Press of Britain has produced a sharp clash of editorial views in Sunday national papers.

Leading members of the Parliamentary Labour Party, among whom are Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Herbert Morrison and the Food Minister, Mr John Strachey, have recently denounced sections of the powerful Conservative Press for their criticism of Government policy, principally on food questions, and the controversy is rapidly coming to a head with the tabling in the House of Commons of a motion signed by over 100 Labour members calling for a Commission of Inquiry into the British Newspaper industry.

ATTLEE AND CHURCHILL

Mr Attlee, addressing a gathering of miners at Durham on July 20 accused the Opposition Leader, Mr Winston Churchill, of indulging in "a series of stunts to make capital out of national necessities." Mr Attlee declared that the Opposition was completely bankrupt of any considered policy and had no general conception of what kind of a Britain they wished to see.

"All they can do is to repeat the parrot cry of private enterprise", he said.

When Mr Churchill was in office, said Mr Attlee, he talked of a five year plan. "The tragedy for him is that the Labour Government, with unexpected vigour, have in twelve months put through the major items of this plan, which was prepared by the Coalition Government, and the Leader of the Tory Party now finds himself without a programme."

SIR S B HATNAGAR

Mr Herbert Morrison, the Lord President of the Council, told the delegates to the Commonwealth Scientific Conference at Oxford how Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar leader of the Indian Delegation, single handed, extinguished a fire in the laboratory of the President of the Royal Society.

Sir Shanti Bhatnagar was walking along the road when he noticed flames coming from the laboratory where Sir Robert Robinson President of the Royal Society works. He tried to enter the building and give an alarm but found the door locked, so climbed to the window, forced it open, entered and extinguished the fire which threatened valuable equipment and records as well as the building.

SIR JOSEPH BHORE

Sr Joseph Bhore, former Adviser, Bhopal State, is reported to have been nominated by the Nawab of Bhopal, Chancellor of the Princes' Chamber, as the Indian States representative in the Indian Delegation to the Peace Conference in Paris. Sir Joseph is in London.

STUDY OF INDIAN MEDICINE

A strong plea for the development of the indigenous system of medicine by the Government of Madras is made by Captain G Srinivasamurti and Mr K Balasubramanya Aiyar in a memorandum submitted to Mrs Rukmini Lakshminipathi Minister for Public Health.

The memorandum urges the Government to safeguard the science of Indian medicine by giving the same encouragement as is being given to Allopathy in the matter of pay prospects and privilege to votaries of Indian medicine. After referring to the need for establishing herbariums the memorandum requests the Government to open hospitals of Indian Medicine in each of the taluk and district headquarters and to set up a Committee to go into the curriculum of studies of Indian medical colleges for the fixing of proper courses of studies in all branches of Ayurveda Siddha and Unani. Institution of scholarships, compilation of all available literature in Indian Medicine and conferring of University degrees in Ayurveda are among the suggestions made for developing the science of Indian medicine.

CURE FOR PLAGUE

Russian biologists are experimenting with a new drug which they believe may well be effective against bubonic plague and certain forms of tuberculosis.

The drug details of which are still secret was injected into artificially infected plague ridden guinea pigs. All the animals recovered completely from the disease and further experiments were equally as encouraging as they proved the drug provided one hundred per cent immunity.

Further laboratory experiments were successful in combating certain forms of tuberculosis. So far the results of similar tests on human sufferers have not been announced but the biologists are hopeful they will be no less encouraging.

PUBLIC HEALTH UNDER CENTRE

Indian scientists and doctors in London are seriously concerned at the exclusion of public health administration and medical research from the control of the Central Government as proposed by the Cabinet Mission. In a statement to the United Press of India, Dr K C Sarker, leading member of the Swaraj House, suggested that a committee of public health experts and medical scientists should be called immediately to advise the Constituent Assembly on this vital problem of our country. He also urged that public health organisation all over India should bring this matter to urgent notice of leaders of Indian National Congress. Dr Sarker emphasized that in a vast country like ours the problem of public health should be tackled by centralised control with decentralised administration to suit the need of provinces.

NEW ACID TO INCREASE LIFE SPAN

A longer, healthier life for man is promised by an acid contained in yeast. Dr Thomas S Gardner of Kingsport, Tennessee, U S, revealed recently in a report to the American Chemical Society.

The acid known as yeast nucleic acid, has been tested on animals and has increased their average life span as much as nine per cent, besides making them stronger and more active. Dr Gardner says the process is now ready for experiments with human beings.

PUBLIC HEALTH JOURNAL FOR MADRAS

Mr A V Raman, former Sanitary Engineer to the Government of Madras has declared himself before the Chief Presidency Magistrate Egmore as the Editor and Publisher of a monthly journal in English called *People's Health*.

The object of the journal is to devote itself to all aspects of the people's health.

Mr N Ramaratnam of the Madras Law Journal Press has declared himself as the Printer of the journal.

BANK OF INDIA, LONDON BRANCH

The Bank of India has opened an office in London with effect from 1st July, under the management of Mr J Riddell former manager of the P and O Bank and former Rubber Controller. This move by one of the Big Five Indian rupee banks attracts interest in London since the only other rupee banks which have London offices are the Imperial Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of India. The Bank of India will conduct exchange business since there is, it is reported, a growing demand by customers of the big rupee banks in India for these and other overseas facilities.

THE INDIAN BANK LIMITED

We are informed that, subject to audit of accounts the net profit of the Indian Bank Limited, Madras, for the half year ended 30th June 1946 after providing for contingencies is Rs 15 30 593 11 11 the gross income and expenditure (depositors interest, management expenses etc) for the period being Rs 38 54 017 15 0 and Rs 23 23 424 3 1 respectively. The above net profit together with the balance of Rs 57 359 10 7 carried forward from the last years account amounts to Rs 15 87 953 6 6 which is available for disposal.

BILL TO CONTROL INVESTMENTS

Disagreement between the House of Lords and the House of Commons over the Government's Bill to control investments was settled when the Lords decided not to insist on the amendment on which they had recently defeated the Government. They wanted control limited to five years with which the Commons disagreed. Now the Lords have accepted the Government amendment limiting the Bill to transactions over 10 000 in any one year.

THE INDO COMMERCIAL BANK LTD

The net profit of the Indo Commercial Bank Ltd for the half year ended 30th June 1946 after meeting Depositors interest, establishment and other charges subject to audit) is Rs 4,70 159 10 0

SIND-BOMBAY RAILWAY PROJECT

It is learnt that estimates for the direct Sind Bombay railway line have been worked out and the project will cost Rs 8 crores. It is proposed to use diesel oil engines on this line as most of its length will run through the desert of Cutch. The construction work is expected to be undertaken from April, 1947. It is proposed to start a big workshop at Hyderabad, where the American authorities had established a wagon assemblage plant during the war, and establish a labour colony at Badin.

AIR CONDITIONED COACHES

The management of the B B and C I Railway have, in pursuance of its plans to improve railway travel generally, decided to run air conditioned coaches on two of the metre gauge sections of the Railway.

To begin with bi weekly services of air conditioned coaches will be run between Ahmedabad and Hyderabad (Sind) and between Ahmedabad and Delhi on the Railways Sind and Delhi metre gauge mail service.

RAILWAY SURPLUS STAFF

The total number of staff who have become surplus up to March 31, 1946 is 34 658 says a *communiqué* issued by the Railway Department (Railway Board).

Of these 18 910 have been absorbed in other railway activities while 15 748 have had to be discharged. The figures for the month of March which are included in the above mentioned figures, are 4 483 surplus, of which 3 492 were absorbed and only 991 discharged.

RAILWAY WAGONS RETURNED TO INDIA

About 90 of the 250 railway wagons loaned to Ceylon by India during the war, have been returned to India. The railway authorities in Ceylon have not yet decided when to return the remaining wagons, as the Ceylon Government railway is badly handicapped by a shortage of wagons and the position is expected to remain so till the arrival of wagons from Australia.

BLIND SCULPTOR WHO IS ONCE ARMED

A blind sculptor who is also one armed, is having a busy sale for his sensitively sculptured busts at the Pavillon des Invalides, Paris!

This brilliant artist is Rene Tourneaux, who lost his sight and arm in World War I before he had ever handled a piece of modelling clay.

When he left hospital he was given the job of drawing on wax but made little progress.

Then a sculptor introduced him to making plaster reproductions.

Tourneaux became interested. Slowly and painfully, he learned to use his one hand. After many struggles he managed to create a life like head of a woman.

His greatest triumph was to create a model of his own hand. And he determined the shape of the hand with his lips!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BRITISH DESIGNERS

The Royal Society of Arts is this year reviving its scheme for the provision of Bursaries for the aid of young British designers. These competitions were discontinued in 1942 owing to the call up of art students for war service. Now scholarships of the value of £150 each are being offered in connection with the carpet furniture and pressed glass industries. The Sir Frank Warner Memorial Medal will be awarded to the candidate responsible for the best carpet design submitted in the competition.

LONDON EXHIBITION OF INDIAN PAINTINGS

An exhibition of paintings by the Indian Christian artist A. Thomas who spent several years in an Italian internment camp was opened in London at the India House by the Marchioness of Willingdon on July 2. The ceremony was attended by the High Commissioner for India Sir Samuel Runganathan and the Secretary of the East India Association, Sir Frank Brown.

TENNIS FEDERATION'S DECISION

The International Lawn Tennis Federation have become the first world sporting organisation to take steps to ban enemy countries from sport.

At the annual general meeting of the Federation in London last month the first since March 1, 1939, it was decided that Lawn Tennis Associations of Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Libya, Rumania and Siam have now ceased to be members of the Federation.

An official statement said that as and when applications are received in proper form according to the rules and from any of these nations for re-entry into the Federation they will be considered by the Committee of Management, and presented at the annual general meeting of the Federation. Each case for reinstatement will be decided on its merits.

INDIA'S PERFORMANCE IN SECOND TEST

Tributes to the wicket keeper Hindlekar as the saviour of the India side are the highlights of all cricket correspondents' accounts of the last day of the Test Match at Manchester.

Many of them say that England 'ought to have won. Sohoni comes as a close second to Hindlekar for praise. Typical of the headlines are the last pair save India. India's last man is hero of drawn Test match.

'All errors, tactical and selection count for little when cricket produces moments of such tenseness as this,' says the *Daily Telegraph* cricket correspondent. 'No better play can be imagined either to watch or to play in.'

MORE PLAY GROUNDS FOR CRICKET

The Madras Cricket Association had recently appointed a Ground Sub Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr C. P. Johnstone to inspect open spaces in the City with a view to finding whether it was possible to have more grounds which cricket could be played.

SECOND ATOM TEST AT BIKINI

A special radio transmission from Bikini Atoll announced that the second atomic bomb exploded under water at 9.35 p.m. GMT (3.5 a.m. IST) on July 24.

Observers, 16 kilometres away from the scene of the explosion, reported that the 85 target ships were completely obliterated from sight by clouds of spray and steam which reached a height more than 2,000 feet. The sound of explosion was broadcast by special arrangement and it was heard in London.

As the spray subsided it was seen that the test cruiser 'Salt Lake City' was still afloat. It is believed that some of the television screens filming the test were put out of action.

INDIA AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

India will be made a world centre for Applied Mathematics equipped with the latest types of calculating machines which in a few seconds would do sums which would take experts days or weeks.

This is one of the projects of UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation) according to a disclosure made by Julian Huxley, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission of UNESCO at the Empire Scientific Conference now in session at Oxford. The reason for selecting India is that she has produced a number of famous mathematicians among her scientists.

EMPIRE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Science is to aid the formation of Government policy, said Mr. Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council opening the Commonwealth Scientific Conference in London, on July 9.

Its results will be applied in improving the standard of life of the people in Britain and Empire, he declared. 'As far as the Government in the United Kingdom is concerned,' said Mr. Morrison.

I can assure you that the recommendations of this conference will receive the most careful and sympathetic consideration.

FILM OF STALIN'S LIFE

'The Oath', the first major attempt at a film portrayal of Stalin as a strategist and leader of the Soviet State is to be released shortly, says the Moscow Radio.

The title refers to the oath taken by Stalin at the death of Lenin 22 years ago. The main idea of the film is to show that the oath taken by Stalin in 1924 has become the underlying programme of the Bolshevik Party and the basis of the Soviet life as a whole.

The scenario was completed during the war and some of it under great difficulties in freezing winter of 1944.

The title role of Stalin is played by the Stalin Prize winner Golovany.

PRIZE FOR THE BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM

The Punjab Government is offering two prizes for two films which best promote good relations between the various communities. The first prize will be of Rs 5,000 and the second of Rs 2,000. These prizes would be awarded to films of the documentary type produced during 1946-47. The length of the documentary film should be not more than 1,000 ft. In addition to these prizes, the Punjab Government undertakes to buy the prize-winning films at the rate of Rs 7 per accepted foot. Further information can be had from the Director, Home Publicity, Punjab, Nedous Hotel Building, the Mall, Lahore.

CINEMA WORKERS ASSN

Mr. S. Soundararajan inaugurated the South Indian Cinema Employees Association at a meeting held at the YMCA, Esplanade on July 21.

About fifty representatives from the mofussil were present.

Mr. Soundararajan said that it was time that workers in every industry realised the value of unity. The unique feature of the cinema industry was that there was paramount need for perfect understanding between the workers and the proprietors.

PERMITS FOR NEW CARS

The Government have issued instructions to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller on the principles to be observed in issuing permits for new cars.

A Press Note on the subject says

In view of the fact that the number of new cars available at present is very small and as it had come to the notice of Government that certain persons were attempting to take advantage of the present abnormally high price of second hand cars to dispose of their present cars at an excessive profit, and then to apply for a permit for a new car certain instructions have been issued to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller as to the principles to be observed in the disposal of applications for permits.

First priority has to be given to those for whose work a car is essential. Within this class each case will be decided on its merits according to the urgency of the need and the alternative modes of transport available. But it has been laid down that within this class preference will normally be given to those who have no car and have not sold a car since the repeal of the Used Order. Only in cases where the owner can prove to the satisfaction of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller that the sale or proposed sale was not with the object of taking advantage of the present high prices of secondhand cars but for unavoidable reasons will such an application be granted and then only when all other essential needs have been satisfied.

U S AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURE

The United States automobile manufacturing industry is expected to achieve the highest production shortly.

The automobile production prospect has improved considerably with the settlement of numerous strikes in factories of manufacturers of component parts.

At full speed the American automobile industry can produce about 150,000 automobiles each week.

NEW DELHI-MADRAS AIR SERVICE

With effect from Monday the 1st July, 1946 Indian National Airways and Deccan Airways announce they have jointly inaugurated a fourtime weekly return service between Delhi and Madras via Gwalior, Nagpur and Hyderabad.

The southbound Delhi-Madras services have been scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and the northbound ones also for the same days. The Delhi-Madras single fare will be only Rs 240 which considering the saving in time and the absence of the discomfort attendant on surface travel, is most reasonable. There is a possibility that by arrangement with Tata Air Lines the Delhi-Madras-Delhi service may be made to connect with Tata's Bombay-Calcutta-Bombay service at Nagpur thus providing a one-day air link Madras-Calcutta and *vice versa*. This development if it takes place, will be a boon to travellers wishing to travel between Calcutta and Madras as it will completely avoid the rigours of surface transport on the Calcutta-Madras journey.

NATIONAL AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY

The Government of India have decided to establish a national aircraft industry in India with a 20-year target of complete self-sufficiency for building aircraft needed for the Royal Indian Air Force as well as for civil aviation. The decision is based on the recommendation of the United Kingdom Aircraft Mission which was invited to India in March 1946. It is learnt that production will be initially started at the Bangalore factory which would require extra expenditure of Rs 13 lakhs for the existing factory to meet all requirements for plant for the next 5 years excluding the capital expenditure on the engine which is likely to be heavy.

SUBSIDIES FOR FLYING CLUBS

The Government of India have decided to subsidise the existing Flying Clubs in such a way as will ensure a rapid revival and expansion of their activities, says a Press communication.

INDIAN TARIFF BOARD'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Indian Tariff Board it is learnt has so far submitted its final report on nine industries to the Government of India recommending either continuance of the present measure of protection afforded to some industries or enhancement in certain others

Some of the industries in regard to which the final reports have been submitted are calcium chloride, phosphates and phosphoric acid photographic chemicals grinding wheels bichromates antimony aluminium and steel

Aluminium is stated to be the biggest industry requiring protection More than five crores of rupees are reported to have been invested in this industry alone The present production of aluminium in this country satisfies only 25 per cent of India's requirements and the remaining 75 per cent is imported This industry it is learnt is capable of expansion provided capital equipment could be obtained The Tariff Board's recommendation in respect of such industries which are capable of expansion seem to fall under two heads First, the Government of India must help in obtaining capital equipment for the expansion of such industries and secondly, afford sufficient protection against foreign competition

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL MISSION

A delegation of industrial experts from India headed by Sir M Visvesvaraya has arrived in England for a four weeks study of current conditions in Britain

The delegates who have gone from all parts of India and represent many industries including iron and steel textiles and pharmaceuticals are members of the All India Manufacturers Organisation

After a month in England they will spend four weeks in America two weeks in Canada and four weeks on the Continent before returning home They have authority to make purchases for the industries they represent

PYKARA SCHEME

The extension programme of the Pykara and Moyar Hydro Electric schemes has been sanctioned by the Government to enable the full utilisation of the generating plant to meet the demands of the Southern area of the Madras Province

A Press Note on the subject states

The Government of Madras have sanctioned an estimate for Rs 255 29 lakhs initially, rising to Rs 413 79 lakhs at the end of the tenth year for the Pykara Hydro Electric Scheme, III Stage Extensions and the Moyar Hydro Electric Scheme II Stage Extensions which form part of the main Pykara Hydro Electric Development The Pykara Extensions provide for a Dam across the Pykara river for storing 2 000 million cu ft a new penstock line and two additional generating sets of 13 500 KW each at the Pykara Power Station The Moyar Extensions provide for a third generating set of 12 000 KW at the Moyar Power Station

In view of the recent experience of continued adverse water conditions in the south the building of the reservoir on the Pykara river is programmed to commence immediately Sufficient storage is expected to be built up by 1948 to enable the full utilisation of the existing generating plant Work on the extensions will be completed by 1950 51

SUGAR CANE IMPROVEMENT

Sir T S Venkatraman has endowed a prize of the value of Rs 500 to be awarded under the auspices of the Sugar Technologists Association of India to any person contributing a paper or article showing the greatest practical improvement in the cultivation of sugarcane or the manufacture of the end product including sugar and gur and bye products in the preceding year A Committee to examine the papers has been formed and papers articles etc may be sent to the Secretary of the Association Nawabganj Cawnpore, by August 31 1946

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN INDIA

The terrible poverty in which masses of Indian youth live was referred to by Mr S A Dange Vice President of the All India Council of Trade Unions in an interview appearing in *Komsomolskja Pravda* of Moscow on July 7

Mr Dange said that children aged 8 to 14 worked in factories and plantations from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m. Since the end of the war, unemployment had been growing and the unemployed did not receive assistance or relief. They died slowly of hunger.

Referring to the great housing shortage Mr Dange said that twelve or thirteen families were living in one room. The food and clothing situation was deplorable, he added.

Mr Dange declared that Moscow impressed him more than any other capital he had visited. He added, 'What astounded me was the fact that no one pointed me out as a person coming from the colonies.'

Mr Dange visited Moscow to attend the first full meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

BOMBAY MILL OWNERS DECISION ON WAGES

Hours of work in cotton mills would be reduced from 54 to 48 per week, or from nine hours per day to eight from August 1, 1946. The reduction in hours would naturally result in loss of production and a corresponding drop in earnings in the case of workmen employed in piece work occupations. To prevent this however and to enable the piece work operators to maintain their earnings, the Mill Owners Association Bombay, has announced an increase of 12½ per cent in the basic rates of wages in all piece work occupations with effect from August 1, 1946.

The wages of time workers have not been reduced and they will continue to receive the same rates of wages though they would be putting in one hour less per day.

LATE MR SRINIVASA SASTRI

Tributes to the memory of the late Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri and to the qualities that made him a world figure were paid at a public meeting convened by the Sheriff of Madras on July 11 on a requisition by a number of prominent citizens of Madras to mourn the leaders passing away and to take steps to perpetuate his memory.

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar presided over the meeting and the speakers included Mr C Rajagopalachari, Srimati Rukmini Devi and Rao Bahadur N Sivaraj, the Mayor Mr M S Aney, Indian Representative in Ceylon was one of those present on the dais at the meeting.

Mr H S Town, the Sheriff of Madras, said that the meeting had been convened on the requisition of a number of prominent citizens of Madras to record their deep sense of loss at the passing of the Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri. 'This great man one of India's greatest sons Mr Town added 'was a figure of international renown and his words and his life had repercussions throughout the universe. The quiet dignity with which he ordered his life is a lasting inspiration to everybody. The beauty of his voice will remain a cherished memory to all who had the privilege of hearing him speak. The clarity of expression which he commanded gave rare power to his words. His life and work will speak to the youth of tomorrow and they will gain guidance, help and encouragement by a close study of the life of this great man Mr Srinivasa Sastri has passed away, but his spirit will remain with us for ever.'

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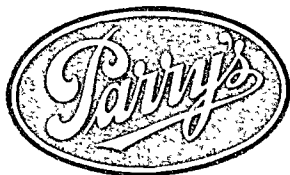
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During the present world shortage of Textiles, all of us will have to make do with limited cloth supplies for months or even years to come. To get the best value for money during this time of shortage, see to it that whenever possible you buy the long lasting Buckingham & Carnatic Mills cloth distinguishable by these famous trade marks —

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Our production today is over 6,000,000 yards monthly, but railway difficulties prevent free distribution to some distant centres

Shortage of chemicals and dyestuffs prevents the manufacture of many pre-war favourites, and also of a wide range of colours. We hope this is temporary

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calls for small houses
throughout India. The plan
provides two rows with a
kitchen, a bathroom and a
small corner for a well-venti-
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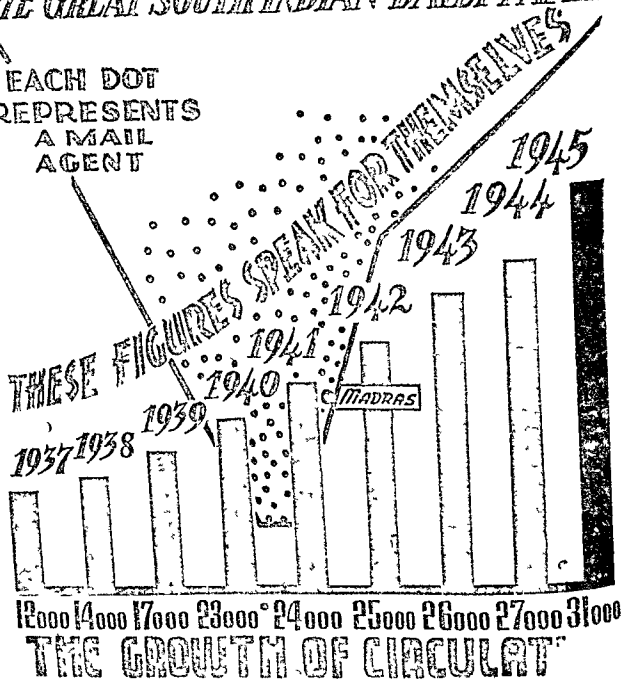
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Many of these and other vegetables can be grown in the town gardens, according to the season.

Potato	Brinjals	Luffa
Sweet Potato	Peas	Cucumber
Radish	Turnips	Cabbage
Carrots	Spinach	Cauliflower
Onions	Tomatoes	Beans
		Lady's Finger

Gourds of all types.

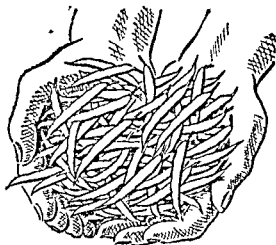
● **MAIZE**, a quick growing and useful cereal, can be easily grown in town gardens. Plant 'early' maize

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AMOUNT OF SEED REQUIRED PER 1000 SQ. FEET

Beans	1 1/4 lbs.
Peas	1 lb.
Radish	3 ounces
Potatoes	10 lbs.
Turnips	1/2 ounce
Lady's Finger	3 ounces
Tomatoes	1/4 ounce
Cabbage	1/4 ounce
Cauliflower	1/4 ounce

TIME REQUIRED FOR THE CROP TO BE READY

	Months
Beans	5-6
Cabbage	4-5
Carrots	3-4
Cauliflower	3-4
Onions	7-8
Peas	4-5
Radish	2-3
Indian Spinach	1 1/2-2
Tomatoes	3-4 early crop 7-8 main crop
Potato	3-4
Sweet Potato	7-8
Lady's Finger	2-3



THE MIRACLE MAN WITH UNRIVALLED POWER INDIA'S GREATEST ASTROLOGER & TANTRIK-YOGI



RAJ JYOTISHI, JYOTISH-SHIROMANI PANDIT RAMESH CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA, JYOTISHARNY, M.R.A.S. (London) of International fame, President—World Renowned All India Astrological & Astronomical Society (FSD 1907 A.D.)

He is the only Astrologer in India who first predicted the Allies Victory in the present world war on 3rd Sept 1933 within 4 hours the very day of the declaration of war which was duly communicated to and acknowledged by the Secretary of State for India, the Viceroy and the Governor of Bengal and who is also the consulting Astrologer of the Eighteen Ruling Chiefs of India

It is well known that the Astrological predictions of this great scholar, his wonderful methods of redressing the pernicious influence of evil stars, his power to bring success in complicated law suits and also to cure incurable diseases are really uncommon

Many Ruling Chiefs of India, High Court Judges, Commissioners of Divisions, Advocate Generals, Nawabs, Rajas, Maharajas etc., and also many reputed personalities of the world (of England, America, Australia, Africa, China, Japan, etc.) have given many unsolicited testimonials of the great Pandit's wonderful powers

A FEW OPINIONS AMONGST THOUSANDS

His Highness The Maharaja of Aligarh says — "I have been astonished at the superhuman power of Panditji. He is a great Tantrik." Her Highness The Dowager Gih Maharani Sahib of Tripura State says — "I am feeling wonder at the marvellous Tantrik work and excellent efficacy of his Kavachas. He is no doubt a great personage with miraculous power. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherji, Kt., says — "The wonderful power of calculation and talent of Sirman Ramesh Chandra is the only possible outcome of a great father to a like son." The Hon'ble Maharaja of Santosh & Ex President of the Bengal Legislative Council, Sir Manmatha Nath Roy Choudhury Kt., says — "On seeing my son, his prophecy about my future is true to words. He is really a great Astrologer with extraordinary power." The Honourable Justice Mr. B. K. Roy of Patna High Court says — "At a glance on me, he began to disclose my mental thoughts and he predicted marvellously many things. He is really a great personage with super natural power. The Hon'ble Minister, Govt. of Bengal, Raja Prasanna Deb Raikot says — "The wonderful power of calculation and Tantrik activities of Panditji on several occasions have struck me with greatest astonishment. Really he is unique in his line." The Hon'ble Justice Mr. S. M. Das, of Kronghar State High Court, says — "Panditji has bestowed the life of my dead son. I have never seen in my life such a great Tantrik Yogi." Mr. J. A. Lawrence, Osaka, Japan writes — "I was getting good results from your Kavacha and all my family were passing a different life since I started wearing. Mr. Andre Tempe 2724, Poplar Ave, Chicago, Illinois U. S. America — "I have purchased from you several Kavachas on two or three different occasions. They all proved satisfactory. Mrs. F. W. Gillespie Detroit Mich., U. S. America — "I am wearing your special Dhanada Talisman and so far my luck has been with me a great deal better than in the past." Mr. K. Kuchpaul Shanghas, China — "Everything you foretold in writing is taking place with surprising exactness. Mr. Isaac Mumi Esta, Govt. Clerk & Interpreter in Darbhanga, West Africa — "I had ordered some Talismans from you that had rendered me wonderful service. Mr. B. J. Fernando Proctor, S. C. & Notary Public Colombo Ceylon — "I got marvellous effects from your Kavachas. I have had transactions with you almost every year for the last 20 years for about Rupees three thousand." Etc., etc and many others.

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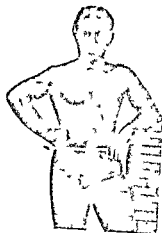
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- 2 Economise in your own home by having fewer dishes served. See that there is no wastage in the kitchen.

- 3 Observe austerity at weddings and at ceremonies—both religious and social.
- 4 Improve your diet by eating more vegetables, fruit, fish, meat, eggs and milk products depending upon your taste. Reduce your consumption of rice and wheat.

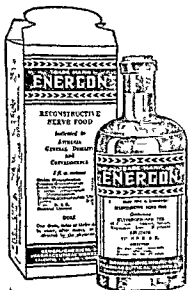
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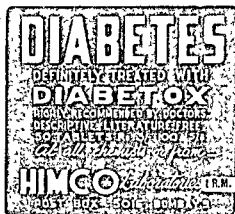
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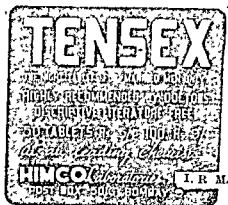
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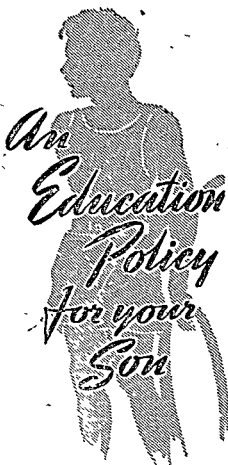
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	Rs	As	Pa		Rs	As	Pa
Authorized Capital	20 00 000	0	0	Cash and Bank Balances	11,00	12	3
Subscribed Capital	10 00 000	0	0	Investments			
Paid up Capital	5 00 000	0	0	In Government			
General Reserve	1 00 000	0	0	Securities	18 09 04	3	6
Reserve for Income Tax	30 31	2	7	In shares of			
Investment Reserve	61	0	0	Joint stock			
Deposits	64 90 306	0	3	companies			
Due to Banks	12 19	2	12	(fully paid)	2 00	0	0
Sum in hand	3 53 937	0	0	Loans and Advances	58 25 349	11	0
Bills for collection	9 06	0	7	Sundry	44 84	15	9
Profit and Loss Account				Bills per contra	9 20	3	0
(including Rs 2 78							
forward)	72 80	13	1				
Total	89 8	40	10	Total	89 58	40	10

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 27th August 1946

(Sd) N. MARTHANDA PILLAI
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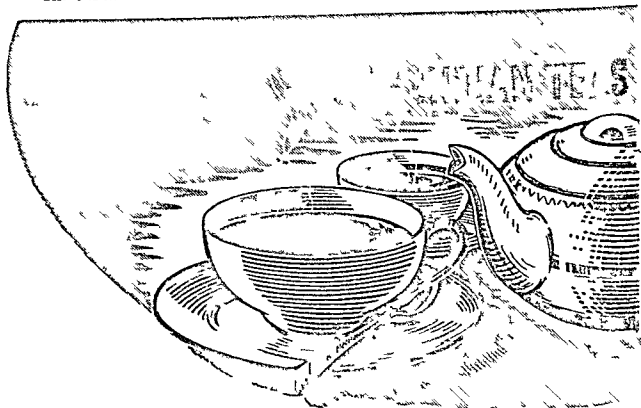


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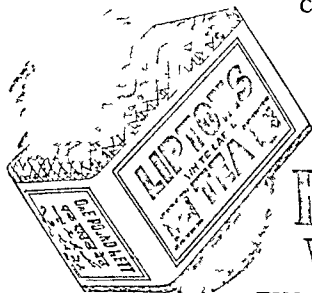
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DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN BARODA STATE

— 0 —

For the first time in the history of the State the Government of Baroda recently presented to the Legislative Assembly of the State a budget showing a deficit of about Rs 76 lakhs. Accounting for this large deficit Sir Brojendra Mitter the Prime Minister of the State said "Due to the end of the war there is a downward trend in the receipts specially in income tax while the expenditure shows a definite upward trend." This increase in expenditure is mainly due to the large increases in the grants allowed to the Nation Building departments. For years past the policy of giving increased grants every year to development departments has been steadily followed by the State. This year that policy has been more vigorously applied and large increases in the budgets of the development departments have been sanctioned. The budget of the Agriculture department has almost been doubled Rs 21.80 lakhs being provided this year as against Rs 10.17 lakhs spent last year. Rs 7.35 lakhs more have been given to the Education department over its last years budget and Rs 2.01 lakhs to the Medical department. This progressively liberal expenditure on the nation building departments is clearly brought out by the fact that during the short course of the quinquennium the expenditure on these departments increased from Rs 68.85 lakhs in 1942-43 to Rs 103.77 lakhs in 1946-47. In other words it rose by about 50 per cent during the quinquennium.

An analysis of this policy reveals interesting facts. The expenditure on education has increased by about Rs 11 lakhs during the period. It increased by Rs 5 lakhs

in the case of the Agriculture department and Rs 2 lakhs in the case of the Commerce department. These figures compare very favourably with the other parts of India—especially the Bombay Presidency and the other Indian States. In case of the Medical and Educational departments the percentage of the expenditure by the State exceeds that of the Bombay Presidency.

The total percentage for sanitation, medical, educational and Industries comes to 25.5 for Baroda and 24.00 for Bombay for the year 1945-46.

Another noteworthy fact regarding the nation building activities in the State in the comprehensive post war programme that has been prepared by the Post War Reconstruction department of the State is a tentative programme involving an expenditure of about 15 crores during the period of 10 years. It has been drawn up and awaits the scrutiny of the Central Co-ordination Committee.

It may be recalled here that His Highness the Maharaja has also established an Industrial Advisory Board with a view to scrutinise the Baroda plans in the light of all India conditions. Sir Homi Mehta is the Chairman of the Board and Shri Ram Dr. John Matthai and other leading industrialists of Western India are its members. A post war reconstruction fund has also been started by the State and it stands at about Rs 15 crores.

Last but not the least all the nation building activities which are in many cases mere ambitions than those in the neighbouring areas have not imposed upon the people any undue taxation. To quote but one instance, the incidence of taxation in Baroda during the year 1944-45 was Rs 9.37 while it was Rs 12.29 in the neighbouring province of Bombay.



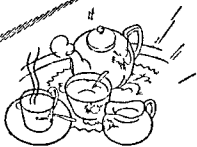
Kundan Lal Saigal the golden voiced Idol of the Indian screen was born at Srinagar in 1906 For some time he served the Govt of India and N W Railway He joined the New Theatres in 1931 and ever since has been delighting his countrymen with the most popular songs Perhaps in no other role did his musical genius find such spontaneous expression as in that of Tansen

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THE INDIAN REVIEW

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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SEPTEMBER 1946

[No. 9.]

BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

BY RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR

"WE see then how far the monuments of wit and learning are more durable than the monuments of power, or of the hands. For have not the verses of Homer continued twentyfive hundred years or more without the loss of a syllable or letter; during which time infinite palaces, temples, castles, cities have been decayed or demolished.

"It is not possible to have the true pictures or statues of Cyrus, Alexander, Caesar; no, nor of the kings or great personages of much later years; for the originals cannot last, and the copies cannot but lose of the life and truth. But the images of men's wits and knowledge remain in books, exempted from the wrong of time and capable of perpetual renovation. Neither are they fitly to be called images, because they generate still, and cast their seeds in the minds of others, provoking and causing, infinite actions and opinions in succeeding ages: so that, if the invention of the ship was thought to be noble, which carrieth riches and commodities from place to place, and consociateth the most remote regions in participation of their fruits; how much more are letters to be magnified which, as ships, pass through the vast seas of time and make ages so distant to participate in the wisdom,

illuminations and inventions, the one of the other!"

How truly has Francis Bacon in one of his immortal essays depicted the power which books have to mould the minds and lives of men.

As a child, fairy tales fascinated me as also the ancient myths of Greece, Rome and our own land. I can still derive pleasure therefrom. They testify to the oneness of human nature at all times and in all climes. The majesty of mountains, rivers, sun and ocean makes one cease to wonder at our ancestors worshipping them and who that lies under the glorious canopy of the moon and stars is not reminded of the undying legends that have been woven round them?

"Literature is about life. It is addressed to you personally. So all good books ought to leave you different about life."

Bible stories were read to me as a child by my mother from two little volumes called "Line upon Line." They were but an initiation into the treasures in it that have since unveiled themselves and continue to do so even today. From the literary standpoint the Bible is one of the noblest things in the English language. But beauty of language apart it is an exquisite guide to human living. It is the

unsurpassable beauty of the life and teachings of the Christ that holds and inspires one to strive ceaselessly for that perfection which is the goal of all high human endeavour. Throughout the ages it has taught man not to count the cost of standing as witness to truth. The richest diadem is the "Crown of Thorns", the strongest weapon in man's armoury is that perfect love which drives away fear and scorns retaliation, the riches of poverty outshine all the treasures of this world's goods. The world may have shut its ears to the message of the inspired pages but the story of Jesus remains as a light to lighten humanity for all time.

The fifth Century B. C. gave birth to a galaxy of great souls throughout the world. Confucius and Lao tze in China, Isaiah in Judaea, Gautama Buddha in India and Socrates in Greece.

Edwin Arnold's "The Light of Asia" has never ceased to inspire me. I can turn to it again with infinite joy. Once more it is the great renunciation that thrills the heart, the story of which is told in such exquisite language and perfect imagery in this great poem.

Truth cannot perish on the cross nor in the poisoned cup which was administered to Socrates for bearing witness to it. The Trial and Death of Socrates left an impress on me while I was still in school. In later years the life and teachings of the great martyr were more vividly brought home by the writings of his great disciple Plato's "The Republic" is surely one of the books that has through the ages instigated the search for the good life not only for the individual but also

for society. His 'words of wisdom' are always a delight to peruse. "Grant to me that I may be made beautiful in my soul within and that all external possessions be in harmony with my inner man. May I consider the wise man rich and may I have such wealth as only the self-restrained man can bear or endure" is a prayer of Socrates and as soulfilling a prayer as anyone could choose to have.

"The Pilgrim's Progress" written by the persecuted and unlearned thinker is the age-long story of the great conflict between good and evil told in simple and telling language. Which of us has not come up against Giant Despair and not fallen into the Slough of Despond? Is not the world a veritable "Vanity Fair" and are we not always coming across those very human characters, good and bad, with the apt names given to them all by the author? Few books appeal equally to children as well as grown-ups as does the story of the pilgrim.

Poetry and drama have always had a passionate appeal for me.

Browning's "Saul", "Rabbi ben Ezra", "The Grammarian's Funeral", "Men and Women" are poems which I cannot forget together with Milton's "Paradise Lost", "Samson Agonistes", "Comus" and "Lycidas", Keats' "Endymion", his odes to the Nightingale and the Grecian Urn, Shelley's "Adonais" and his lyrics, Byron's "Childe Harold", Herrick and other poets of the Elizabethan age all these are engraved in my heart as also much of that great poet of nature Wordsworth, Tennyson's Idylls of the King still captivate me. They remind me

strongly of the Ram Rajya of Gandhiji's dreams. The kingdom broke up when its own members fell from the high standards they had set for themselves. Feminist as I was even in my girlhood days, it used to hurt me to feel that the fair Queen Guinevere had been the cause of the downfall of her great husband's kingdom and the frustration of his dreams.

And what of the giant Shakespeare?

"Not marble nor the gilded monuments
Of princes shall outlive this powerful rhyme".

How truly he spoke of himself! From the fairy atmosphere of "The Midsummer Night's Dream", the charming tale of "Cymbeline," the matchless love story of "As You Like It", the magic lure of "The Tempest", the brilliance of "The Merchant of Venice", the noisy drollery of "The Merry Wives of Windsor", one goes with the same fascination to the great tragedies of "Julius Caesar", "Hamlet", "Macbeth" and "Antony and Cleopatra". Deceit, ingratitude, deceit, cruelty, ambition and their opposing virtues are all depicted by the master hand in their true colours in these as well as in the historical plays. The stories may veer from the truth as far as history or legend go but the characters of human beings are as true to life as possible and portrayed with all the wealth of colour that the brush of a genius in art alone can wield. Matthew Arnold truly called it "Shakespeare's cloudless, boundless, human view".

"Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" were my first love and have remained so. They are just as fascinating to read now as they were when one was a child.

No woman but loves fiction, for romance is part and parcel of her nature. Exceptional women's characters in fiction have always remained in my mind even though I have not read the books for years, such as Rebecca and Rowena in Scott's "Ivanhoe", Nell in the "Old Curiosity Shop", Nancy in "Oliver Twist", Betty Sharpe in "Vanity Fair", Romola in the novel of that name, the blind girl in "The Last Days of Pompei", the delightful old ladies in "Cranford" and I suppose I could go on *ad lib*, but I may not.

Alas! That my education having been wholly in England I can claim to have read in the original some unforgettable French masterpieces such as Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame", Moliere's "L'Avare" and Racine's "Le Cid", but I cannot say the same of the great literature of my own country. Translations of the Ramayana and Mahabharata in both English and Hindi have gripped me but I have unfortunately no knowledge of Sanskrit. Those who will be educated in the new India will, at any rate, have a pull over us who were of the generation that were brought up on English literature. The double heritage will surely be a richer one.

Finally I cannot express in words the immense influence exercised over me by the writings of the greatest man of our age. They have led me to throw in my lot with Gandhiji so that thereby I might learn how to live truly. The latest exploits in war have surely proved beyond doubt that his way of life is the only way if this world of ours is to survive.

May he be enabled to live long enough to lay well and truly the foundations of the Swaraj of his conception so that India may lead the world into the paths of peace.

Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany 1933-'41

By DR MAHMUD HUSSAIN PhD

SOVIET Russia was on the best of terms with Republican Germany up to about 1924. Then the relations became somewhat cool. Still between 1925 and 1933 these relations were though not very yet quite friendly. Then came Hitler. In spite of many points of resemblance between National Socialism and Bolshevism, Hitler was a confirmed enemy of Bolshevism and Russia. And his hostility was not wholly based on ideological grounds. He stood for a policy of expansion towards the East and that was the root of the trouble. Says Hitler in *Mein Kampf*. We (National Socialist) stem the Germanic stream towards south and west of Europe and turn our eyes eastward. We have finished with the pre War policy of colonies and trade, and are going over to the land policy of the future. When we talk of new lands in Europe we are bound to think first of Russia and her border states. He claimed that the Germanic element to which Russia owed her greatness had been replaced by the Jewish and the character of the Jew, according to him was not that of an organiser but of a decomposing leaven. He seemed to be sure that the Russian Empire was ripe for collapse. He abused the rulers of Russia called them 'low blood stained criminals and the scum of humanity'.

But after all *Mein Kampf* was written long before Hitler rose to power. Many people thought that office would make him more balanced and moderate. Yet one of the first things done by Hitler after capturing power in Germany was the annihilation of the German Communist party the most powerful

and the best organized Communist organization outside Russia. The party was supposed to be the instrument through which Capitalism would receive its death blow in Europe. Direct attacks followed on Soviet citizens and institutions in Germany. Restrictive measures were adopted against Soviet newspaper correspondents and the Police raided the offices of the Soviet petrol marketing organization. Even the treatment meted out to the German Communists and the violation of Soviet economic interests did not cause so much concern as the possibility that the anti communist drive might not stop at the frontiers and Nazi Germany might turn towards Russia. Hitler's book had surely been read by Soviet leaders. He persisted in the policy he had advocated. An anti Russian War of words was started which resulted in an immediate deterioration in the Russo German relations. This war of words was perhaps at its highest in 1936 but it continued throughout with unabated fury. Speaking sometime in 1936 Hitler said 'An international Jewish revolution centre at Moscow propagates the revolutionizing of Europe through the wireless through money and through agitation.' The aim of Bolshevism, added Hitler, 'was the destruction of the racial unity of nations and the replacement of the Aryan heritage by that of the Jews.' Simultaneously Goebbels was declaring to the world that 'Bolshevism must be exterminated if Europe is to regain its normal health and that 'Germany

* For the Russo German relations before 1933 see my article on Soviet Russia and Germany in the Indian Review of April 1916

had given the signal for the world struggle." Towards the end of the year 1936 Hitler came out with the statement that was destined to become notorious: "While Russia has 18 times as much territory as we have, Bolshevism cannot feed its people. What failures they are! If we had the Ural mountains with their incalculable stores of raw materials; Siberia with its vast forests, or the Ukraine with its tremendous wheat fields; Germany under national-socialism would be swimming in plenty. I am not afraid of the hour of danger . . . Our old adversaries may come bearing their Soviet emblems before them. We shall not flinch under our standards. "Then in May, 1937, referring to Russian leaders, he said that they were all Jews and there could be no question of sympathising with what he called the perpetrators of mutual assassination in Russia because they were "one family-- the oldest family that we know of" And in February, 1938 while speaking of Germany's ardent desire for peace with every one, he made one exception: "We have not sought relations with one State and do not wish to enter into closer relations with it. This State is Soviet Russia. More than ever we look on Bolshevism as the incarnation of the human lust for destruction . . . We are inexorable enemies."

Never before in the history of Europe were such words used by the head of one State against the head of another. No wonder the misgivings about Germany were disturbing the peace of mind of the Soviet leaders since 1933. They had to change their attitude towards other nations. The result was a diplomatic revolution. They gave up their revisionist attitude in regard

to the territorial settlement made at Versailles; because revision had now become linked up with the victory of Fascism. This tendency in Soviet policy became even stronger after the conclusion of the Anti-Comintern pact between Germany and Japan (1936) to which Italy also became a party (1937).

But even before the conclusion of this pact Soviet Russia had started building up diplomatic understandings with other States who were equally interested in checking Germany and Japan. Pacts of non-aggression were concluded in 1933 with all the western neighbours Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Roumania, also with Czechoslovakia and Italy. And finally a pact was concluded with France. In 1934 the Soviet Union became a member of the League of Nations. The Bolsheviks had, in the past, denounced the League in no uncertain terms. And other members of the League had considered Bolshevik Russia an outcast among nations and unfit to be a member of the august Assembly. National Socialism, however, changed the attitude of Soviet Russia towards the League and the attitude of the Powers towards the Soviet. Thus at least on paper the anti-Nazi coalition seemed to be formidable. But the policy of appeasement followed by the Western Democracies on the occasions of the denunciation of the Versailles Treaty by Germany clause by clause, the remilitarization of the Rhineland, the rearmament of Germany which was now no secret and its recognition by Great Britain in the shape of the Anglo-German Naval Agreement of 1935, the inactivity of the League in connection with the Abyssinian affair, the non-intervention in Spain

on the part of the Democracies while Italy and Germany were intervening wholeheartedly the rape of Austria, and finally Munich completely disillusioned leaders of So called Russia. She now believed and she had every reason to believe that the democracies will not fight against Fascism. And it appeared that if Germany was to be engaged in a big war in Europe it will take the shape of a war between German National Socialism and Russian Bolshevism. That was what the Democracies would have perhaps preferred. At least one meaning of the policy which came to be known as the policy of appeasement was this: Democracies would have loved to see Fascism and Communism engaged in a war of mutual destruction. The destruction of Germany was to remove all danger to their imperial possessions and the destruction of Russia was expected to make their social system or their way of life safe for a long time to come.

For similar reasons Russia preferred war between Germany and the Democracies. It was in Soviet Russia's interest that this war should continue for long and her greatest enemy should be made to direct all his energies westwards. In the meantime she could obtain territories and perfect her defences.

That is why Russia concluded that pact of non aggression and mutual understanding with Germany in August, 1939 that astounded the world. Both Russia and Britain were playing the same game. Russia succeeded where Britain failed. Indeed ever since Munich which sealed the fate of Czechoslovakia the relations between

Russia and the Western Powers had been lukewarm. And all talk of forming a Peace Front was dismissed by Soviet Russia with the contempt that it deserved.

By concluding the Russo German Pact Soviet Russia succeeded in diverting Germany westwards. A war between the British and French Empires on one side and Germany on the other was likely to be a long and destructive process and it suited Soviet Russia. It meant possible immediate territorial gains and the probability of Socialist revolutions all the world over after the long conflict. No sooner had Germany declared war on Poland than Russia concentrated troops on the Polish frontiers. On the 15th September 1939 the Russian press for the first time, spoke of the ill treatment of the Russian people in Poland. On the 16th September, the Polish ambassador was called by Molotov and was informed that the next morning Russian troops would be crossing into Poland. This they actually did. By this time Polish resistance against Germany had practically come to an end, and Poland was hardly in a position to fight against the Russians. Soviet troops simply walked into Poland. On September 18th German and Soviet troops met at Brest-Litovsk. There was a mutual exchange of 'courtesies'. A treaty was concluded on September 28th and Poland was partitioned for the fourth time. Russia without any sacrifice, secured more than one half of Poland which was Sovietized and Germany was prevented from coming too close to Russia proper. This was the first imperialist move of Soviet Russia. The friend of the subject

peoples had appeared in a new role. But this was only the first step. Imperialism to be true to itself must be greedy. Soon after the absorption of more than one-half of Poland came Russian pressure on the small Baltic states—Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Russia demanded from them the conclusion of mutual assistance pacts and the permission to Soviet Russia to establish military and naval bases on their territory. The little states had no option but to agree. Estonia was the first to succumb (September, 28th). She was followed by Latvia (5th October) and then by Lithuania (10th October). Not long after the conclusion of these pacts, all the three applied for membership of the Soviet Union and their "application" was granted (June, 1940). Then came the turn of Finland. Similar demands were made. To be exact, the demands were even more drastic, for in addition to the usual terms, Finland was asked to destroy the Mannerheim line or the whole system of fortifications which she had built up. Protracted negotiations followed. Finland was ready to offer concessions but not all the concessions asked for. This resulted in war. After three and a half months of gallant fight the Finns had to sue for peace (March, 1940). As a consequence of the war still larger concessions had to be made. Having dealt with Finland, Russia turned towards Rumania. In June, 1940, Rumania was asked to cede Bessarabia and northern Bukovina. Hitler himself advised King Carol to accept the inevitable. All these gains brought to the Soviet Union 20 million people and large

territories rich in agricultural and mineral resources. It also meant the strengthening of Russia's position in the Baltic. Her coast line which had been reduced to only one hundred miles after the First World War was now enlarged by 700 miles.

While Soviet Russia was thus strengthening her position, Germany was not only not preventing Russia from obtaining these advantages but even seemed to be a party to these arrangements. Russia was quite useful to Germany by way of supplies etc. Then came the sudden fall of France in 1940. This was not in the bargain. No one had expected that France, with her second biggest empire in the world would fall like this. Russia now felt that after all Britain might make peace. And so what Russia did was she stopped supplies to Germany and started negotiations with England. But after the failure of the Battle of Britain or the aerial blitz Russia felt that Britain would not give up fighting. Again, Germany had to be patted on the back. So in November, 1940 once more Mr. Molotov visited Berlin and carried on negotiations "in a spirit of mutual confidence." Supplies again flowed into Germany. German plans about the Balkans and Jugoslavia, however, once more brought about a deterioration in these relations. This was the game that Russia was playing when the Germans attacked Russia on the 22nd of June, 1941, that fateful day in History on which Napoleon had undertaken the invasion of Russia. Russia was forced into an alliance with Great Britain and later on with U.S.A.

THE CASE FOR AN ALL-INDIA UNIVERSITY

By ADHYAPAKA BINOY GOPAL ROY M.A.,

Vis 7 Bharati Santimketan

INDIA to day possesses twentyone universities for the dissemination of higher education. Some are residential some examining some communal and some regional. Again most of them are of the western type while only a few are truly eastern. Attempts are being made to create racial universities to satisfy the claim of different races. Proposals have already been made for a Maharashtra university. All such ideas are welcome and India should be a network of universities. But India to day needs such a university where an all India feeling and consciousness can be imparted to students. All Indian students should feel that they are first Indians and then Bengalees, Punjabis, Hindus, Muslims, Mahrattas or Sikhs. We want to day an institution where students can be made to be India minded. Where can we know the real India? The existing universities hardly help us in the matter. The All India university should be an institution where all Indian languages shall be taught where students and teachers from all parts of India shall meet and exchange their ideas where all petty and minor differences shall be sunk in the interest of the motherland and where higher education shall be pursued from a scientific standpoint.

There is a great need for the teaching of the various Indian languages. No existing Indian university has adequate provision for it. Some universities teach some languages but not all and that too in a haphazard manner. The All India univer-

sity should teach the different Indian languages with a view to promote mutual understanding amongst the people who use them. Students and teachers from all over India shall come to the All India university for study and culture. They shall live together, study together, dine together and play together. This will generate the true sense of co-operation amongst them which will be highly helpful for our national solidarity. Our particular and peculiar customs, prejudices and superstitions will all be churned into an All India form.

The All India University shall be the truly representative university. We have got no institution to day which can represent India in all her aspects. A Calcutta or a Madras university, a Hindu or an Andhra university represents only sections of India. Such an Indian university is needed to day as can give the truly Indian culture to the West and receive the truly Western culture in return. In the cultural environment of the world let the All India university contribute the truly Indian lore. India had a glorious past but mere love for the past will not lead us far. We have to assimilate the ancient wisdom once more under the present conditions and we have to improve it in various ways. Knowledge is not static, it is highly dynamic. Indian lore shall cease to inspire mankind unless it is made to grow, expand and attain more and more perfection. Only a truly representative university can take up this arduous task. It is true, sectional or regional universities suffer from narrow

perspectives that are inevitable. Only an All India institution can be free from all bias, and it can have a comprehensive outlook.

No university fulfils its aim unless its teachings descend on the teeming millions. If the fruits of researches, studies and experiments are not utilised for the good of humanity, why have a university at all? This is true—particularly of India. India is a poor country, her millions are starved or half-starved, her cattle are dying, her rivers are being choked, her soil remains barren and her babies are short-lived. Have the existing Indian universities done anything to ameliorate India's sufferings? Besides turning out hundreds of graduates to crowd the employment market, what are the present universities doing? True, &

Indian scientists are doing valuable work in the field of pure science. Researches in pure science are commendable but India needs badly researches in applied science. Our supreme callousness towards the sufferings of the motherland is perhaps due to the fact that we do not know or care to know the real state of India. An All-India institution where students and teachers are all India-minded, can alone banish the apathy.

How to govern the institution? The management of the All-India university shall be vested in a trust and the trustees shall represent the whole of India. Only one silent rule shall guide the management and the atmosphere of the institution and that is—create and nurture an all-India feeling and consciousness.

Sir William Jones: An Eminent Orientalist

BY MR. JAGMOHAN MAHAJAN

AN adventurous linguist, who considered languages as "the mere instruments of real learning" and thought them "improperly confounded with learning itself", and who is said to have known thirteen languages thoroughly and twenty-eight fairly well, Sir William Jones was born in London just two centuries ago—on September 28, 1746.

His father, who was a celebrated mathematician and a friend and interpreter of Sir Isaac Newton, passed away when young William was just three years old; and he was brought up by his exceptionally

talented mother who led her son's mind to learning and diligence, particularly attending to the cultivation of his memory by making him learn and repeat extracts from Shakespeare.

In 1753 he was sent to Harrow, where, in spite of spells of indifferent health, he soon gave proofs of his possessing extraordinary abilities. He distinguished himself especially in his knowledge of Greek, and also taught himself the rudiments of Arabic and Hebrew. In all this he was aided by an extremely retentive memory that led him once, in his twelfth year,

to reproduce verbatim the entire text of Shakespeare's *Tempest* by heart So deeply was Dr Thackeray, his headmaster at Harrow, impressed by his abilities that he gave it as his opinion that Jones was 'a boy of so active a mind that if he were left naked and friendless on Salisbury Plain, he would nevertheless find the road to fame and riches and Dr Sumner, Thackeray's successor, was heard to declare that Jones knew more Greek than himself

In 1764 Jones entered University College, Oxford, as a Foundation Scholar Here he exhibited a distinct partiality for oriental literature and he forthwith set about learning Arabic which he soon mastered with the assistance of an Arab of Aleppo, whom he had accidentally discovered in London and whom he was able to persuade to accompany him to Oxford He also diligently pursued his studies in Persian and Hebrew and gained some acquaintance with Chinese besides attaining fluency in German Spanish and Portuguese

Although thus occupied in the pursuit of universal literature he was not insensible to the fact that the meagre finance of his mother made it imperative that he must soon obtain a fellowship in order to give her some relief But as, the prospect of obtaining that advantage was still remote, he accepted in his nineteenth year, the offer to be the private tutor to Lord Althorp the only son of the first Earl Spencer and in the summer of 1765 he went to Wimbledon Park to take up the instruction of his pupil then a lad of seven years He continued for five years

to superintend the early education of his ward, while still keeping his terms at Oxford During his stay with the Spencer family besides prosecuting his linguistic studies Jones also paid attention to accomplishments He shared his pupil's dancing lessons learnt the use of broad sword from an old Chelsea pensioner, and took lessons in riding and fencing from Angelo In 1766 he was elected a fellow of University College, Oxford, he was admitted to the Bachelor's degree in 1768 and to the M A degree in 1773

When Christian VII of Denmark visited England in 1768, bringing with him a Persian biography of Nadir Shah, Jones was approached to translate the MS into French He declined the offer at first, but when he learnt that in the event of his refusal the honour would go to some Frenchman he agreed to undertake the work The translation was published in 1770, the year in which he left the Spencer family In the next appeared his *Dissertation sur la littérature orientale* wherein he defended Oxford scholars against the criticisms made by Anquetil Du Perron in the preface to his translation of the Zend Avesta In the same year he published with some assistance from Iltisam ud din who was probably the first educated Indian to visit England, his *Persian Grammar*, which ran into several editions and which served as a means of "introducing a host of Englishmen to the tongue of Firdausi and Hafiz" The publication of *Poeseos Asiaticae commentatorum libri sex* in 1774 definitely established his reputation as an oriental scholar He was elected a Fellow of the

his fine hymns to Hindu deities deserve a notice here

Wrapt in eternal solitary shade
 Th' impenetrable gloom of light intense
 Impervious inaccessible immense
 Ere spirits were infused or forms did play'd
 Ere in his own Mind survey'd
 As mortal eyes (thus finite we compare
 With infinite) in smoothest mirrors gaze
 Swift at his look a shape supremely fair
 Leap'd into being with a boundless blaze
 That fifty suns might dazzle

But even if Jones had written nothing else his epoch making discovery of the relationship between Sanskrit and the other languages now called Indo European would alone rank him among the foremost British Orientalists. The *Sanskrit* language whatever be its antiquity he made the startling announcement to the Asiatic Society in 1786 is of wonderful structure more perfect than the *Greek* more copious than the *Latin* and more exquisitely refined than either yet bearing to both of them a stronger affinity both in the roots of verbs and in the forms of grammar than could possibly have been produced by accident so strong indeed that no philologist could examine them all three without believing them to have sprung from some common source which perhaps no longer exists. There is a similar reason though not quite so forcible, for supposing that both the *Gothic* and the *Celtic* though blended with a very different idiom had the same origin with the *Sanskrit* and the old *Persian* might be added to the same family if this were the place for discussing any questions concerning the antiquities of Persia. In this manner he laid the foundations of the science of comparative philology which was later on developed by Bopp, Max Muller and Grimm. He

also devised the first scientific system for translating from foreign alphabets into the Roman

The great scholar's health never very good went from bad to worse under the heavy strain of his manifold activities in India. He died at Calcutta, after a short illness resulting from inflammation of the liver on April 27, 1794 when he was still at the very height of his powers. So passed a great figure, the doyen of British Orientalists a man of rare learning, unrivalled energy, and peerless intellect. His activities were as varied as they were numerous and he excelled in all of them. Of him it can be truly said that there is no subject which he did not touch and he touched no subject which he did not adorn.

He was universally regretted and the Directors of the East India Company expressed their appreciation of his services by the erection of a monument in St Paul's Cathedral. Another monument to him was placed in the antechapel of his College at Oxford by his wife.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr G. A. Natesan Editor *The Indian Review* G. T. Madras

SHAKESPEARE AND KALIDASA

BY MR. R. PADMAN, B.A.

ENGLISHMEN regard Shakespeare as the greatest poet the world has ever produced; Indians likewise pay the same compliment to Kalidasa. The fact is that both Shakespeare and Kalidasa are world-poets. Although they belong to different times and nationalities, they are for all time and universal. It is however well worth remembering that the Bard of Ujjain lived eleven hundred years before the birth of the Bard of Avon.

SHAKESPEARE

I shall take up Shakespeare first. His works are rightly regarded as the masterpieces of English literature. He marvelously understood the human heart and has put life into the figures of men and women long passed away. They become real to us as we watch their making love, making war, making their destiny in life. In his best plays, we can largely perceive the drama played by men and women on earth. His philosophy of life cannot be gathered up from the mere significance of a single play or even a few plays. His plays naturally group themselves into certain periods of his mental development. The plays of one group eventually grow into those of another. Hence it is necessary to consider his plays as a whole with special reference to each group as affecting one another. It is only in this way that anything like a philosophy of life can be drawn from his writings.

HIS INTENSE PATRIOTISM

In the make-up of such a group, his historical plays come first and go together. In these dramas, the real hero is England. They brim over with his intense patriotism and make an excellent handbook of English history. To him there is no land like England as will be manifest from his rhapsodical outburst:

"This royal throne of kings, this scepter'd isle,
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,
This other Eden, demi-paradise."
(Richard II, II, 1)

Of a piece with this extravaganza is his loud boast that,

"This England never did, nor never shall,
Lie at the proud foot of a Conqueror."
(King John V, 1)

Now we have in his historical plays six full-length portraits of the kings of England—portraits of kingly weakness such as in King John, Richard II and Henry VI; portraits of kingly strength such as in Henry IV, Henry V and Richard III. Shakespeare's highest ideal of a King reaches in Henry V. Here is his high-pitched portraiture of that king:

"Hear him but reason in divinity,
And all admiring with an inward wish
You would desire the king were made a prelate;
Hear him debate of commonwealth affairs
You would say,—it hath been all in all his study;
List his discourse of war, and you shall hear
A fearful battle render'd you in music:
Turn him to any cause of policy,
The Gordian knot of it he will unloose,
Familiar as his garter."

Hence the great German critic Schlegel is more than justified in describing these historical plays as "a historical heroic poem in the dramatic form of which the several plays constitute the rhapsodies"

HIS LOVE OF WAR

Beneath all his high flown poetic extravagance however, Shakespeare has unconsciously but with great truth hit on England as "this seat of Mars". No doubt he pays a meed of praise to peace; but his love of war lets him down. He deeply deplores "the weak piping times of peace". However reconciled to peace Shakespeare would have it that,

"Pence itself should not dull a kingdom
But defence, musters, preparations
Should be maintained, assembled and collected"
As it were a war in preparation"
(Henry IV, II, iv)

In this passage a modern reader cannot help recalling quite a similarity to the modern increase of armaments merely as a defensive measure in order to prevent war and not to prepare for it. Shakespeare raises a question of the relative importance of war and peace and asks:

The taint of flesh reaches its zenith in Gertrude, Hamlet's mother. "Frailty! thy name is woman," as the ideal of motherhood in Gertrude shocks Indian decorum.

However free and self-willed Shakespeare's women are, strangely enough, he approaches the Hindu ideal of wife-hood as depicted by Kalidasa.

"Thy husband is thy lord, thy life, thy keeper,
Thy head, thy sovereign; one that cares for thee,
And for thy maintenance, commits his body
To painful labour, both by sea and land"

(Taming of the Shrew)

HIS HEROES

Brutus is Shakespeare's ideal man. "The elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world—this was a man." Yet a man with an unjustifiable taint of his hand against his best friend and the noblest Roman of the time. Coriolanus is another such. He hated the people whose breath was to him "as the reek of the rotten sew," and whose love counted only "as the dead carcasses of the unburied man that do corrupt the air"; yet Shakespeare would hold up that "his nature is too noble for the world." This gap between Shakespeare's aesthetic and ethical conceptions recurs too often. For instance, he leaves alone the unmerited affliction to which Cordelia is subjected in mute helplessness. Kent in *Lear*, Friar Lawrence in *Romeo and Juliet*, Horatio in *Hamlet*, Cassio in *Othello*, Antonio in *Merchant of Venice* are but moral dummies exposed to the blows and buffets of the world. The tragic intensity reached thus in the second group of plays leaves him adrift without any chart or map of life.

RECONCILIATION BETWEEN TRAGEDY AND COMEDY

The third group comprises the plays *Pericles*, *Henry VIII*, *Cymbeline*, *Winter's Tale* and *The Tempest*. They are full of imaginative characters and super-natural agencies. The tragic intensity ceases and "lets in new light through chinks that time has made." In these plays there is

no dividing line between tragedy and comedy. They all end happily though interwoven with very tragic incidents. *Cymbeline* is called a tragedy, but it is no more tragic than *Winter's Tale*. Shakespeare tries to effect a reconciliation between tragedy and comedy in life. *Imogen* is *Desdemona* reshaped and refined; *Othello* is remoulded into the *Winter's Tale* and *Lear* is recast in *Cymbeline*. All these plays are too full of sea and ship-wreck. Shakespeare attempts "to fetch happiness to shore out of shipwreck" as ingeniously made out by Quiller Couch.

HIS POVERTY OF PHILOSOPHY

The Tempest is the last of Shakespeare's plays in which he may be said to reach the highest in his philosophy of life. Prospero represents, on the intellectual side wisdom and love of knowledge. He stands on the moral side for unselfishness and devotion to duty. His brother Antonio is a type of worldliness and treachery; Alfonso represents subtlety; Gonzalo typifies commonsense; Caliban is gross and earthly. Miranda is Shakespeare's perfect woman. His philosophy does not go far. There may or may not be another world. This world is all that he knows. *Desdemona's* and *Cordelia's* will not be the last word. They are transformed into *Marinas*, *Perdittas*, and *Mirandas*.

"The sands are numbered that make up my life,
Here must I stay and here my life must end."
(*Henry VI*)

In the last resort, man after death, according to Shakespeare can only

"Lie in cold obstruction and to rot,
To be imprisoned in the viewless wings
And blown with restless violence about
The pendant world."
(*Measure for Measure* III, ii)

His utmost philosophy of life does not go further than that

"The weariest and the most loathsome worldly life
That age, ache, penury and imprisonment
Can lay on nature, a paradise to what we fear
[of death.]"

Here is positive proof of Shakespeare's utter lack of inner illumination. He sees only with the outward eyes. He has no notion whatever of "Eternity whose end no eye can reach." To know aught of the ideology of "the soul of origin divine, god's glorious image freed from clay, in Heaven's eternal sphere," we have to turn to the Indian poets among whom Kalidasa holds the palm.

KALIDASA

I now turn to Kalidasa's works. They are marvels of Sanskrit literature. They consist of two epics *Raghuvamsa* and *Kumarasambhava*, three plays *Sakuntala*, *Malavikagnimitra* and *Vikramorvasiya* and two nature poems the *Meghaduta* and the *Seasons*.

Raghuvamsa is a great historical epic with several heroes but the central figure is Sri Rama with a broad sketch of his ancestors and descendants who adorned the ancient throne of Bharatvarsha. The Rama cantos are an epic within an epic and form the central piece. It is the key stone which if taken away will let the arch of the whole structure go to pieces.

HIS PATRIOTISM

Kalidasa's patriotism is as profound as that of Shakespeare. If to Shakespeare, there is no land like England, which he likens to a "demi-paradise", to Kalidasa there is no land like India which he characterises as a "radiant bit of heaven". He exclaims

"O fine Ujjain! Gem to Asanti given
Where village ancients tell the tales of mirth
And tell romance! O radiant bit of heaven,
Home of a blest band whose worth
Sifted though fallen from heaven,
To bring down heaven to earth
(*Meghaduta* Part I, 60)

If Shakespeare's historical plays constitute a historical heroic poem in dramatic form, Kalidasa's *Raghuvamsa* is a grand historical poem in right epic style. This great epic sings of three groups of kings. Cantos 1 to 9 deal with Rama's ancestors, Cantos 10 to 15 are directly concerned

with the great Rama himself in whom the ideal of kingship reaches its highest; Cantos 16 to 19 are devoted to Rama's descendants.

HIS KINGLY CHARACTERS

The poem opens with King Dilipa, Rama's great great grand father whose motto was duty and self sacrifice. The story of how he offered his body to the lion in order to save the cow of his devotion from its hungry clutches is too well known to need repetition. Kalidasa depicts Dilipa as a king, who

'Practised every virtue though in health,
Won riches with no greed of wealth,
Guarded his life though not from fear,
Prized joys of earth, but not too dear,
His virtuous foes he could esteem
I like bitter drugs that healing seem
(*Raghuvamsa* I. Ryder)

His son Raghu too "manifested royal worth by even justice toward the earth". He was

"Beloved as is the southern breeze
Too cool to burn, too warm to freeze"
(*Raghuvamsa* IV Ryder)

Aja, Raghu's son, was a greater king than Raghu or Dilipa. He was known for territorial conquests as well as the conquest of Indumati, "God's masterpiece of beauty". This union shows how "a gem is ever fitly set in gold" (Canto V). Dasaratha, the offspring of this union was renowned for glory, justice, prowess and piety, despite the guilt of his early days. Prince of archers, he possessed the craft of *Sabdabhedhi*, that from sound alone he could pierce the victim. Thinking that it was an elephant at drink, the great sound discerner drew forth and shot an arrow, but lo! it was a hermit boy who had gone to fetch water for his blind parents. The result was

"The father cursed the king
With tear stained hands
To equal sufferings
In sorrow for your son so I too shall die
An old, old man he said saluted
(Ibid I. Ryder)

Nemesis came and Dasaratha had to suffer
"Justice" sending his own son,

Rama into banishment and himself dying of sorrow for his banished son. Both are acts of self-sacrifice made in order to make good his word to whomsoever thoughtlessly given or howsoever it came to be cruelly used against him as by his own Queen Kaikeyi. This high-pitched ideal of duty and self-sacrifice showed itself in his son too, who had to banish Sita into the forest by a too-far-fetched ideal of response to the meanest popular voice. The Rama—Cantos are splendid and present a unique picture of the highest Indian ideal of a King

The Raghuvamsa does not lose sight of kings fallen from this ideal to the lowest depths of degradation. The last two cantos give a rapid glimpse of 21 kings of varying virtues including Agni varna, the worst who had too many mistresses to call them by their right name! It is the ideal of the Ekachakradhipatyam or World State, under one king *cum* sage, that Kalidasa holds to view. Even to a latter king like Dushyanta (as manifest from the play of Sakuntala)

"The splendid palace serves as hermitage
His royal government, courageous sage,
Adds daily to his merit."—(Sakuntala II)

This combined ideal of sage and sovereign to confront the vicissitudes of war and peace, shows that Kalidasa understood in the fifth century, what Europe failed to learn till the 19th century or understands even now only imperfectly..

HIS IDEAL OF THE WORLD

Kalidasa's ideal of the world is that it is not made for man only and that man reaches his full stature as he realises the dignity of life and worth of life in relation to every form of life. He holds that life, from plant to God, is truly one; and no one has expressed this more fascinatingly than he. His Raghuvamsa is half nature, half love and life; his Kumarsambhava is likewise half God and half love; in his Meghaduta the first half is a picture of nature and beauty and the second half is a picture of love and human feelings. Both are so equally well defined and depicted that one cannot easily

choose between either for its excellence. Look at his description of the Ganges:

"Ganges o'er the king of mountains
Falls like a flight of stairs from heaven let down
For the sons of men; she brings her billowing
fountains

- Like hands to grasp the moon on Shiva's crown
And laughs her foamy laugh at Gauri's jealous
frown." (Meghaduta I, 60).

Look at his Cloud, "itself as a terraced stairway to the jewelled floor of Mount Kailas" (Ibid 60); or how the cluster of clouds "adorns her face like gloomy curls and streams of rain-like silken strings of close inter-woven pearls" (Ibid stanza 63). Or again how cupid's task is over as it is done by lovely maids,

"Whose frowning missile glances darting pain
At lover-targets never passed the mark in vain."

HIS WOMEN CHARACTERS

Kalidasa's women whether Gauri, Sita, Sakuntala, Urvashi, Malavika or the Yaksha's bride are all human. Gauri is the mountain Goddess herself; Sita earth born but divine; Sakuntala daughter of a heavenly nymph; and Urvashi a heavenly nymph herself. Yet all are alike human patterns of love and life, "each the supremest woman from God's workshop done." See how Kalidasa blends the human element in Sita as an ideal wife. What can be more piercingly pathetic, touching the very core of being, than Sita's words when Rama established her constant purity in an ordeal of fire:

"If I am faithful to my Lord
In thought, in action and in word
I pray that earth who bears us all
May bid me in her bosom fall."
(Raghuvamsa XV. Ryder).

But nothing can exceed the depth of pathos when on her second banishment, she breaks forth into the appeal:

"You saw the matter
How I was guiltless proved in fire divine
Will you desert me for idle chatter?
Are such things done in Raghu's line?"
(Ibid XIV. do).

Yet this patient paragon of an ideal woman could console herself by the philosophic reflection that

"Fate's thunderclap by which my eyes are blinded
Is my old forgotten sin." (Ibid XIV. do)

The same ideal is maintained in the other poems as in his plays. These plays written by him on what is usually called the Shakespearean model eleven hundred years before Shakespeare are quite a marvel. Sakuntala is a gem of woman-kind. Born of heavenly Menaka, bred in a rustic Rishi ashram and companioned by trusting fawns and tender vines, Sakuntala even in her bark robe is really

"God a vision of pure thought
Composed in his creative mind,
His raptures of mystery wrought
The peerless pearl of woman-kind"

(Sakuntala II. Ryder).

Kanya's advice on her departure to the king's palace depicts her duties as an ideal wife

"Revere thy elders well
With reverence and with kindness treat thou all
Adore thy husband as thy God and live
A holy life of duty and of love"

(Sakuntala IV. Monier Williams)

When owing to the curse of Durvasa and the loss of her marriage ring King Dushyanta fails to recognise her, what does Sarangarava say to the king?

"Leave her or take her as you will
She is your lawful wife,
Husbands have power for good or ill
Over woman's life"

But when memory comes back on the fisherman's recovery of the lost ring, the king craves Sakuntala's forgiveness and falls at her feet. Sakuntala consoles him and herself with the remark

"It was some old sin of mine
That broke my happiness" (Sakuntala VII)

THEIR BEAUTY OF FORM

This perfect beauty of soul, enshrined in beauty of form is the same in Urvashi and Malavika. Urvashi, though a nymph, is quite womanly. She is the fairest flower of heaven. She is attacked by the giant ho's on her way back from the abode of Kubera. Vikrama who comes to her rescue finds her in a swoon in the arms of her friend, Chitralekha:

"Look at the wreath of flowers divine
Upon her swelling bosom fine
It glistens like a quivering dart
With throbs of her own frightened heart"

(Vikramorvasya I)

Malavika shines best in the natural beauty of her person:

"With ornaments but few, her cheeks
All pale the maiden sweet
Looks like a Jasmine with few buds
And Iaves, in summer heat"

(Malavikagnimitra III)

Sakuntala too looks best in her valkala vesture

"Covered with moss, the lotus fairest blows,
The moon's dark dots add only to her charm;
Valkal vested yet the maid most lovely shows
What is there but decks a true graceful form"

(Sakuntala III)

Even the godly Gauri is supremely lovely in a forester's garb in which she performs austerity to win the heart of Siva. "As pictures waken to the painter's brush, or lilies open to the morning sun, her perfect beauty answered to the flush of womanhood" (Kumarasambhava, Ryder). She reproaches her beauty as if it were unable to bind her lover, and when the Brahmin youth describes to her her lovers' hideousness,

"Her quivering lips displayed her ire
And reddish glowed her eyes like fire" (Do VI)

She defends her lover thus:

"Enough of this! Though every word that you
Have said be faithful, yet would Siva please
My eager heart all made of passion true
For him alone. Love sees no blemishes"

(Do VI. Ryder)

She behaves quite in a human and womanly way when Siva discovers his glorious form to her. Look again at the description of her joy when Kumara, the War-God, is presented to her child:

"The vision of the infant made her seem
A flower unfolding in mysterious bliss
Or billowy with joyful tears astream
Or pure affection perfect in a kiss"

(Do VI. Ryder).

Kumarasambhava is half Parvati's love and half Kumara's war in heaven. The world of nature runs into the world of man and the world of man runs into the world of gods. These deities are personifications of the powers of nature and of the human soul. The actions of the gods are conceived to be the same in kind as those of man, proceeding from similar motives, directed to similar ends and accomplished very largely by similar means.

HIS INTERPRETATION OF LIFE

Kalidasa gives a wide interpretation of life. The men whose deeds and passions he describes are patterns of life, brimming over with the moral laws of eternity. The history of the race moves under a visible providence, from heroes and gods to an end that would be prosperous. The kings and heroes are the ancestors of the race; they have a root in its affection and they are interwoven with ethical conceptions.

The whole ideal inspires the nation. Behind all sin and suffering, he introduces a redeeming magnanimity of moral justice. Kalidasa displays his genius in interpreting the law of existence as an effort to realise explicitly the ideal good which is implicitly embodied in the facts and lives of his heroes and supplies quite a healing balm. He says:

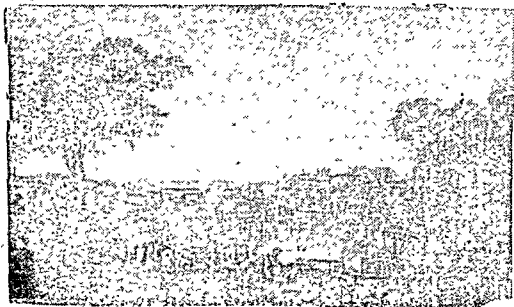
"Who has unending love or lasting weal,
Our fates move up and down upon a circling wheel." (Meghaduta)

Shakespeare is full of sea and shipwreck, Kalidasa is full of mountain and

God. His description of Kailas rock is a typical example of how he blends ethical with æsthetic beauty:

"There saintly breasts with rapt devotion glow
There holy hands the flame of worship feed,
There his good servants, safe from sin and war
From the sore weight of earthly life are freed
Join his own heavenly band and gain a priceless meed."

The philosophy of life which underlies Kalidasa's works stands for (a) the Ekachakradhipatyam or the world state under the sway of an ideal saint, sovereign, with an eye to universal peace; (b) the Ekatom of life and humanity in the universe bound by ties of love and beauty, with an eye to happiness on earth; (c) the Ekatom of God revealed by the relation of individual to universal consciousness, with an eye to salvation in the end. Man lives for the benefit of society. The king lives for the benefit of religion, identified with the highest. The celebrated hymn to Vishnu in Canto X of the Raghuvamsa is the most beautiful expression of this admirable ideal of Adwaitism.



This picture shows J. W. Turner's (1775-1831) large oil painting "Dido and Aeneas leaving Carthage on the Morning of the Chase", which was the first of Turner's series of pictures of Carthage, and was exhibited in 1814.

HINDU-MUSLIM UNITY

BY THE LATE RAJA NARENDHRANATH

We are indebted to Mr Rameshwar Mohun son of the late lamented Raja Narendranath of Lahore for the following letter written by the Raja Sahib in acknowledgement of a book written by an able orientalist Dr S M Abdullah Lecturer in the Punjab University. The book was a historical survey of the contribution made by the Hindus to the Urdu and Persian literature. Hindu Muslim Unity was a subject very near to the heart of Raja Narendranath and in this connection his son tells us that he wrote a letter to Dr Mahmood only three days before he passed away. This letter was much appreciated by Dr Mahmood and Mahatma Gandhi and was widely published in the North Indian papers. The following letter in substance is very much similar. We make room for this fine historical document because it is particularly valuable just at this time when the tension between the Hindus and Muslims is so great. This letter is a real contribution towards unity. It may not be forgotten that Raja Sahib was the President of the Punjab Hindu Maha Sabha and a centre of all Hindu activities. He twice represented the Hindu cause at the 1st and 2nd Sessions of the Round Table Conference in London and was universally respected by Hindus and Muslims alike. He was a great scholar in Urdu and Persian and Arabic. The letter will we hope be of great interest to our readers—ED I R]

I have studied the book *Adabiyat-i-Parsi men Hinduon ka Hissah* (the contribution of the Hindus to Persian Literature) with great interest and feel that at the present moment such books as furnish information about the past brotherly and friendly relations of the Hindus and Musalmans deserve praise and encouragement. A knowledge of the happy conditions of the past might create the same atmosphere in the future. Although political considerations played a great part in this matter yet I am convinced that this was no less due to the contact of the Hindus with the literature of Islam. Alberuni whose works I have seen at a glance was appreciative of the Hindu achievements in the field of Science though he has also made a reference to their vanity and tendencies of isolation and self-sufficiency.

By the way you have not mentioned anywhere in your book whether or not the practice of intercommunal dining

existed in the Muslim period. To my knowledge the Hindus strictly abstained from this. Although they are not so strict at present yet the communal relations are not happier. These are rather bitter to day. You have written that some of the Hindu authors travelled to Iran and Afghanistan. I wonder if after their journey to these countries they still remained Hindus as before. Since long I have been giving serious thought to the question of Hindu Muslim unity. I arrived at a conclusion some fifty years ago to which I stick even now. Mahatma Gandhi is an ardent lover of Hindu Muslim unity but (with due respect to him) I venture to say that his approach to this question is only skin deep. For the last 33 years Gandhi reigns supreme in the domain of Indian politics and is extremely popular among the masses. He could easily collect funds to achieve this object but he has not.

It is my considered opinion that Hindu Muslim unity could be brought about by

persuading the Hindus to study Islamic literature and exhorting the Mussalmans to get into touch with Hindu literature. If Al-Beruni hailing from Arabia, could learn Sanskrit and could devote several years to its study, obviously it would not be difficult for the present-day Musalmans to read Sanskrit now. To achieve this object, I had moved a resolution in the Punjab Legislative Council in 1927, which said that the Punjab Government should earmark a reasonable amount to be spent on stipends and scholarships for those Hindu and Muslim students who come out to read Sanskrit and Arabic and Persian literatures respectively. Since then, I have been thinking over this matter more seriously. I still feel that stipends and prizes should be awarded to the Muslim students devoting themselves to the study of Hindi and Sanskrit, and the Hindu students acquiring Persian and Arabic. Nay, a step further, Hindus should be encouraged to know the contribution of the Muslims to the stock of human knowledge and vice versa. Both the communities should be persuaded to make a comparative study of the religious and theological literatures of one another. If we could prepare since then annually, such five Muslims and such five Hindus in each province, we had by this time amongst ourselves more than 2500 true nationalists, who could have created a better and healthier political atmosphere in the country. Gandhiji, however, made his approach directly through politics and made efforts to bring about a Hindu-Muslim rapprochement in the political field, in which he miserably failed. The author has supported my view-point in his book that study of one another's literature should

be helpful in improving Hindu-Muslim relations. I am convinced that communal cordiality which existed in India in the past was to a large extent due to the Hindus' contact with Islamic literature.

Again, you have not fully discussed the question: how far Islamic influences made their mark on the Hindu Society. My impression is that Islamic influences on the Hindu Society were not deeper than those of the European Culture on our modes of life, confined as they are to ways of eating, drinking and dress. The fact however remains that the Hindu borrowed some of the arts and crafts from the Muslims. The paper-making industry of Kashmir was started by the Muslims as also the carpet-making. In culinary art, Kashmir was introduced by the Muslims. Baqirkhani and shermal are entirely a speciality of the Musalmans. Among the Kashmiri Pandits, the practice of meat-eating existed since long. Most of their dishes bear Persian names, e.g., Kalya, Kurma, Roghan Josh, Kofta. A reference to the Kabaa is also found in the Ramanaya; the two favourite dishes of the Kashmiri Pandits (perhaps not known to the Muslims of Kashmir) are Shufta and Qaburgha. Shufta is prepared of minced meat mixed with vegetable. This latter preparation might be known to the Kashmiri Muslims but under a different name. As to the Qaburgha, perhaps it may not be known to you also. In my early days I was very much fond of it. When I traced this word in Ghiathul Lughat, it was found, "Qaburgha lafz-i-Turkiast ki Gush-i-Basta ra me Guyand". In short, acquaintance with one another's

literature can produce real Hindu Muslim Unity I cannot understand why Gandhiji has not so far devoted attention to this aspect of the problem I am sure we will have to start such a movement before or after the attainment of the self government I have never appealed to the masses because only distinguished personalities like Mahatma Gandhi can influence them He has created awakening in the people but since the country is culturally divided this has become the awakening of the divisions only It has taken the shape of consciousness of the classes groups and communities Such consciousness can only hamper the growth of nationalism Thus in my opinion the Gandhian method has not been able to achieve the objective pointed out in the following verse of Rai Manohar (a poet of Akbar period) quoted by you

(Tr) How become one and unique,
You can from eyes learn

Though separate yet together
they discern

Have the masses welcomed your book?
I think they should do

I find that men are divided into two kinds First those who are pacifists by nature, second, those who do not believe in this attitude although they know the value and joy of peace and cordiality This mentality requires psychoanalysis I

hope to write something about this, if possible For example, Guru Nanak's desire to reconcile the Hindus and the Muslims was not the result of his knowledge of Persian It was not even a political expediency The same was the case with Buddha and Lord Jesus Christ They were not conversant with foreign languages In politics too, we witness the same division Some are Bismarcks, Napoleons, and Hitlers others are Gladstones, Rippons and other Liberal leaders

While giving an account of Dewan Amar Nath (Akbari) you have omitted to mention his Diwan (Collection of poems) It was published by his son Dewan Ram Nath Akbar's son Dewan Bal Nath was also a poet with Asghari as his 'nom de plume' I remember several verses of his even now I have never come across any book of Dewan Bakht Mal His descendants are also not aware of any Raja Dina Nath and my grandfather Dewan Ajudhia Parsad were cousins

This letter has become somewhat lengthy - an apology is contained in a verse of "Urifi".

(Tr) 'As the story was delightful, the
lengthy it has become

As that of Moses had become at
Mount Sinai"

Sd (Raja) Narendra Nath,
22 February 1944

THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

BY "A PUBLICIST"

IT was an excellent idea of the late President Roosevelt to have deputed Mr. Sumner Welles in 1940 as his personal emissary to sound the heads of the belligerent States to avert the dangers that would confront not only the people of America but also the civilized world if the European war continued. In the light of the Nuremberg trials of German war mongers and the attempt at Paris to forge a peace understanding that will ensure security at least for a generation in Europe, Mr. Welles' observations have a topical bearing. The reader need hardly be reminded of Mr. Sumner Welles' qualification for the great task he had undertaken. As head of many a diplomatic mission and as one who had travelled extensively throughout Europe, he had earned a reputation for being hard-headed, realistic, farsighted, outspoken and enlightened in this criticism of men and matters. Mr. Sumner Welles was specially charged with the task of finding out the views of the Governments of Germany, England, France and Italy as to the possibilities of concluding any just and permanent peace. As a representative of President Roosevelt, he had interviews with the outstanding leaders of the countries he visited. His pen pictures of Count Ciano, Mussolini, Ribbentrop, Hitler, Goering, Daladier, Reynaud and Chamberlain are really revealing. So also his narration of the gradual change in American policy from defensive to offensive. Equally authoritative and fascinating is his review of the

events of the past quarter of a century in regard to the politics of the various European States. Mr. Welles does not hesitate to expose the faults and failures of the policy of the United States and of Great Britain also; for he is strongly of opinion that this war might have been avoided.

The plan he sets forth for a world organization based upon regional systems and functioning under a United Nations Executive Council, deserves careful consideration, and it is interesting to note that in substance it resembles the plan which has been agreed to between Mr. Churchill, Marshal Stalin and the late President Roosevelt. Mr. Welles points out in unequivocal language that the Allies should enter the heart of Germany and root out the cause of what he terms the 'German menace.' According to him, for over two hundred years, the Germanic peoples and specially the Prussian people have been a destructive force in the family of nations. Germany no doubt has enriched modern civilization with its philosophic, scientific, literary and musical heritage. Its universities have earned a just reputation for research and scholarship; and in the field of municipal government, they have set a high standard of efficiency and of civic responsibility. But these must not blind us to the havoc which the German nation has wrought for over 200 years, since the time of Bismarck. The authority to which the German people have so often and so disastrously responded is in reality not the German Emperor of yesterday or the Hitler of to-day, but the German general staff. All German foreign policy during

"THE TIME FOR DECISION." By Sumner Welles.
Hamish Hamilton, London. Thacker & Co., Ltd.,
Bombay, Rs. 9-12-0.

the last 75 years has either been initiated by or has required the approval of the German general staff. Mr Welles avers that the German general staff, though aware of the doom that awaits Germany, is still secretly plotting for regaining its influence and promoting, if it lay in its power, another War. He is therefore strongly of opinion that among the measures to be adopted the foremost should be the rooting out of German militarism. And this can only be achieved if Germany is divided to prevent her from becoming a military menace. The United Nations must continue to occupy various portions of Germany under the supreme authority of a world organization. The war criminals must first of all be tried and sentenced there must be a system of controls

organised and carried out by the world organization to make sure that German rearmament is impossible, and that every store of arms and munitions remaining at the time of the armistice is delivered into the hands of the United Nations. Control must be imposed over German mining and heavy goods industries and such control should be exercised over imports also. No attempt should be made to hasten the resumption of self government in Germany. The policy to be followed should be designed not to destroy Germany but to construct out of Germany a safe and co-operative member of a world society.

The treatment accorded Germany by the United Nations when their victory was won should be neither Draconian nor vengeful. It should be formulated however in the light of stark reality that Germany has twice within a quarter of a century brought war and devastation to mankind. The people of the world are obligated to ensure their own survival and the survival of all those things which they hold not dear to see to it that the German race cannot again so afflict humanity.

JERUSALEM

(After William Blake)

And will they raise on Jordan's hills
A mosque a temple and a shrine
And reconcile eternal ills
By dedicating Palestine?

And will they build in days to come,
By pleasure domes of Galilee
Beneath the wing of Christendom
A tripartite theocracy?

Bring me my staff of wishful thought!
Belief in miracles persists
The formula for peace is brought
To Arabs and to Zionists

But Britain's mandate will not cease,
Nor will the sword sleep in our hand
Till we have made Jerusalem
A holy holy holy land

SAGITTARIUS

A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR INDIA

H. E. LORD WAVELL has risen to the height of the occasion. In asking Pandit Nehru, President of the Congress, to form the new Government he has at one stroke resolved the unwanted deadlock in the right democratic way and opened a new era in the history of the relations between India and England. For the first time a truly national Cabinet has been called to control the destinies of this country. It is, as the *Manchester Guardian* points out "something that has never happened before in the relationship of an Imperial power and a conquered country. It is a triumph not only of British talent, for compromise but for the Indian gift of common sense." Now that a truly national government has come into being and a machinery in the shape of the Constituent Assembly has been forged it is up to them to fashion the new constitution of the free India for which we have yearned and struggled so long. Henceforth there can be no looking back. We are in sight of the promised land which is beckoning to us. Long and difficult as the Constitutional discussions may be, we know that there is the reality of freedom at the end of them. Swaraj is hastening to us, said Gandhiji once, and we must make sure that we do not run away from it!

The fear that the caretaker government had come to stay has thus been dispelled. The break with the past is complete. And Mr. Nehru's cabinet has been promptly installed. Congress had long ago declared that it would send its best men to serve on the new government, and that far from being a party matter it had decided to make use of the best "human material" available in the country.

Pandit Nehru's Cabinet fully justifies this claim and we could not possibly have a better list than the impressive names that figure in the Interim Government. It is a great satisfaction that the Sikhs have joined after all, and the selection of Sardar Baldev Singh, the Panjab Minister, for the defence portfolio is a wise choice. The selection of Dr. John Matthai (Finance) to represent the Christian community, will be widely approved. But the principal framers of policy, says the *London Times*, are likely to be found among the Congress Party veterans who will hold the key positions in the new administration. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and Mr. C. Rajagopalachari are three able administrators with a wide knowledge of men and affairs. They will need all their firmness to keep some of the younger men trained only in the freedom of irresponsible opposition to some path, which all who hold high public office must tread.

The idea, as the Viceroy said in his broadcast, was to have a government of Indians, as representative as possible of political opinion in the country. Unfortunately, the Muslim League which had originally accepted both the interim and long term proposals suddenly took it into its head to reject them altogether.

But though five seats out of 14 were offered to the Muslim League, though assurances were given that the scheme of constitution-making would be worked in accordance with the procedure laid down and though the new Interim Government is to operate under the existing Constitution, it has not been possible at present to secure a coalition.

No one could be sorrier about the failure, said the Viceroy, than he is! no one could be more sure that it is a Coalition Government in which both the main parties are represented that is needed at this moment in the interest of all parties and communities in India.

This is the view, which I know the President of the Congress, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and his colleagues hold as strongly as I do. His efforts, like mine,

will still be directed towards persuading the League to join the Government

It is in this spirit of wise tolerance that the Viceroy and the Congress welcome League co-operation at any time. To allay any apprehensions on the part of the minorities Congress has again and again reiterated its anxiety to meet their wishes in all possible ways. The Congress Working Committee has in the clearest possible terms stated that it accepts the declaration of May 16 in its entirety. In his broadcast on the 21st the Viceroy has reaffirmed the Government's adherence to that declaration and revealed that the Congress is ready to agree that any dispute of interpretation may be referred to the Federal Court. What more do they want?

Meanwhile urgent problems of life and death to the nation cannot be left to uncertain and indifferent hands. Problems of labour unrest, of food and cloth scarcity, the threat of famine and the ever recurring strikes not to speak of the eternal communal wrangles fomented by the enemies of the new regime and grave constitutional issues cry out for instant attention and relief. The new government is faced with difficulties of no mean order. And the difficulties are mostly from within. The shadow of the League lies across the path of the new Government as it lay across the path of the Congress during the days of its struggle with the bureaucracy. But it cannot deflect the new Government from its purpose any more than it was able to change the course of that struggle during the days of the non-violent revolution. It is a veritable crown of thorns that the pioneers of the new order have to wear. They need all the sympathy, goodwill and co-operation in the great task that lies ahead of them. They will need not courage and firmness only but great tact

and circumspection—in fact statesmanship of the highest order in pursuing the straight and narrow path.

A strong homogeneous and vigilant centre with adequate powers to deal with the situation is an urgent necessity. Such a central government we have in the Interim Government and it is its business to carry on resolutely. Lord Wavell has stated that it will enjoy the maximum of freedom in the day-to-day administration of the country and though in law it does not possess powers characteristic of Dominion Status, it will be treated by His Majesty's Government with the same close consultation and consideration. That is as it should be. As the *Times* warns us rightly:

there will be many opportunities for friction as the complicated process of transferring authority from British to Indian hands proceeds. Tact and tolerance will be needed on both sides as well as among Indian communities themselves if the perils of India's present plight are finally to be overcome and the dawn of independence to be transformed into day.

It is in this spirit that Pandit Nehru and his colleagues in the Provisional Government are assuming responsibility. On the eve of taking office Pandit Nehru whose words have since assumed a new weight and dignity has made a fervent call for co-operation. We welcome this new tone of humility and prayerfulness.

I feel in no mood to congratulate myself or others for we have yet to reach our goal and the path is still difficult. Though I am not used to prayer, it is in a prayerful mood that I approach this task fervently hoping for the co-operation of all my countrymen in facing the difficulties ahead. I regret deeply that the Muslim League has for the moment chosen a different path. I shall continue to hope for their co-operation and the door for it will always be open. For this business concerns us all and we would be unworthy of the people's confidence if we functioned in a narrow way seeking the good of particular groups or parties and forgetting the larger good of the nation. My colleagues and I go forward as Indians, thinking of India working for India's freedom and the emancipation of her masses. If we forget this at any time then we shall have failed in our endeavour.

Destiny as he rightly says, has conspired to test us in the new days and the team has answered this call with courage and faith in India's future. May it prove worthy of the great occasion.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Stabbing of Sir Shafaat Ahmed

WITHIN 24 hours of the announcement of the list of members of Pandit Jawaharlal's brilliant team, Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan, member-designate of the new Interim Government was stabbed in the dark, while returning from his evening walk at Simla. It is one of the most dastardly crimes of recent times in India. Sir Shafaat's offence, it would appear, was that as a protest against the reversal of the policy of the Muslim League, he tendered his resignation from the League about a month ago and has now accepted a place in the new National Ministry. It is shameful to think that public life in this country, so long nurtured on the principles of Ahimsa and non-violence should descend to this jungle life.

For months past, day in and day out, leaders of the Muslim League have indulged in violent threats of bloodshed and civil war if they can't have their way. Responsible ministers in Sind and Bengal have been preaching "violence in naked language" as Gandhiji put it. Any Muslim who is not in the League is a traitor. Qazi Mohammad Isa, one of the members of the Muslim League Action Committee, declared the other day at Delhi:

Muslims who to-day stand out of the League, if they do not come into its fold within ten days, will be declared traitors and punished for this crime according to the laws of Islam.

Referring to "propaganda that nothing will happen if the League is left out of the Interim Government," Qazi Isa said:

You form the Government and then you will know what Muslims will do.

The Qaid-i-Azam himself set a brilliant example! Even in his last letter to the Viceroy dated July 31, Mr. Jinnah whose manners have deteriorated with age had the effrontery to call the patriotic and respected leaders of the Congress "Muslim Quislings." And he left us in no doubt as to how to treat them. On July 29, addressing the All-India Muslim League Council at Bombay, he said:

We cannot agree to a Quisling Muslim being nominated by the Congress to the Executive Council. What did the British Government do with their own Quislings like John Amery and Lord Haw Haw? Hanged them. Many other Englishmen who betrayed their country and became traitors have been hanged for treason. It is impossible for me to agree to a Quisling being nominated.

Is it any wonder that Muslim fanatics have taken the cue from their leader? If the Indian Government would not do the same with these men, presumably the mob should take the law into their hands. It is absurd to think that any Government, least of all a resolute Government like the one that is shaping itself in India, will be bullied by such silly threats. No wonder that Sir Shafaat told Dr. Gopichand that the brutal attack on him had only heightened his spirit and he could not be cowed down.

The Calcutta Riots

The toll of "communal carnage" in Calcutta, according to *The Statesman* is anything upto 15,000 including dead and wounded. The destruction of property is reported to be five crores. Details of the savage fury of the mobs, filtering through the press, are gruesome reading. An eye-witness writes:

Even small boys and girls were killed by mobs. In one place a three-year-old child is stated to have been killed and nailed to the door. Fiendish mobs raiding residences are said to have thrown down children from second and third floor balconies in some places.

Mobs, armed with axes, daggers, lathies and other weapons raided houses and shops, battered the doors, looted, butchered or maimed the residents on whom they could lay hands, throw petrol and kerosene on the building, set fire to it, and went on their way to carry out similar fiendish work elsewhere.

Calcutta has thus had its first foretaste of what Pakistan is likely to be when it comes. For it must be remembered that in Bengal Mr. Subrawardy, according to the statement of the Finance Minister in the Legislative Assembly, had two roles to fulfil; one as head of the League Ministry and another as leader of the Direct action programme of that Party. Presumably it suited him well. For against strong opposition in the Assembly

by Hindu and European members he declared a public holiday on the 16th thus letting the goonda, and the secret agents loose on the inoffensive people. We do not know if Mr Sahraardy is repentant now but his action preceded by violent and irresponsible speech could possibly lead to no other result.

And yet Mr Jinnah from his safe retreat in Mount Pleasant says that he cannot believe that any Muslim leader would have taken part in any violence. What else does he expect from the violent and vitriolic utterances of his lieutenants like Pir Mahibux who talk such nonsense.

Our national organ at last arrived at an irony also did in that when as about a hundred years ago, the British rule with the help of Hindus laid waste from our lands the kingdom of India we now therefore shall wreak vengeance upon both these hostile powers by very means of sacrifice and will retaliate Pakistan by shedding blood and will therein enjoy freedom and independence.

The Calcutta riot shows the way to Pakistan! Commenting editorially the *Times of India* observes:

If party politics like that of Bengal cannot perform its basic duty of free Government that party is not qualified for the responsibilities of a constitution.

There is no comparison between public service and "direct action."

C. R. The Man and Leader

The unveiling of a portrait of C. R. at the Lakshmi-puram Y. M. I. A. gave occasion to two members of the present Madras Ministry—Mr K. R. Karanth and Mr Daniel Thomas—to pay a well merited tribute to his remarkable gifts both as leader and man. This tribute to his intellectual greatness and integrity of character is particularly welcome as coming from men who till the other day could not see eye to eye with him on matters of public policy. C. R. is displaced in the counsels of the Province but that has luckily opened the way to service in the wider and more important sphere at the centre. It is pleasant to see that political differences have in no way clouded their appreciation of a really great man whose gifts of statesmanship and courage have stood the test of time and circumstance.

Mr Karanth by the way, took occasion to expatiate on one aspect of his experience as minister which is of particular interest today when Congress is out to eradicate corruption in the administration. He referred to instances where undue pressure was brought to bear on ministers and said that if ministers were worth their salt they must resist such attempts at all costs. In this matter said Mr Karanth:

I had found C. R. to be above all others with whom I have worked in public life. During the 24 years he was Premier it could never be said of him that any friend of his or any community any nephew, any niece's husband or anyone could ever influence him to do what was wrong. He always did the right thing. Members might try to influence him if there was too much of it. C. R. would not at all come to Secretariat that day. It is that for which I have the highest respect and admiration—integrity of character.

Passive Resistance in S. Africa

The Passive Resistance movement in South Africa is gaining momentum as the days pass by, and far from being suppressed by Executive action shows every mark of growing in extent and intensity. There have been occasions of Police zooms but the reaction is only the opening of a second front and a general strike among the native miners.

The situation therefore calls for utmost vigilance but there is a decided turn in favour of the sufferers. Yet the Government, supported by the reactionary elements in South African public life seems determined to proceed with their unholy plan.

Now that the question has been referred to the U. N. A. the Indian position in S. A. has assumed international importance. Field Marshal Smuts realises the gravity of the situation and has himself undertaken to defend his position. One of the first tasks therefore awaiting the new Provisional Government in India is to meet this challenge. It is no easy task we cannot handle it in the old way by throwing the blame on others. In a message to the Transvaal Indian Congress Pandit Nehru says:

In India or in South Africa or in international assemblies we shall fight this issue and we will not give in till we secure full recognition of the right and Indian honour.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Membership of the U.N.

BRITAIN and the United States exercised their power of veto in the Security Council of the United Nations for the first time on August 29 in the session dealing with the applications of eight nations for membership of the United Nations.

Only three of the eight candidates gained admission—Sweden, Iceland and Afghanistan. The five unsuccessful applicants—Albania, Eire, Mongolia, Portugal, and Transjordan—all secured a majority of votes cast, but their admission was in each case vetoed by the Great Powers, Britain and the United States vetoing the applications of Albania and Mongolia, and Russia vetoing those of Eire, Transjordan and Portugal.

Future of Pacific Bases

The United States Government has not yet fully decided on a plan for the former Japanese mandated islands in the Pacific and will not put forward any proposal for United Nations trusteeship at the coming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

This statement of the State Department's followed a suggestion by Senator Warren Magnuson that the United States would ask the United Nations for sole trusteeship over the chain of Pacific island bases including former Japanese islands.

Plebiscite on Greek Monarchy

M. Gonatas, the Deputy Greek Premier, announced on September 1 that King George of the Hellenes is to be informed of the "successful outcome" of the plebiscite results on whether he is to be invited to return to the throne.

M. Constantin Tsaldaris, the Greek Prime Minister, now in Paris, has been charged to convey the message to the king.

The Greek Government has informed M. Tsaldaris that the returns so far show that the King has obtained 70 per cent. of the votes and that further results are likely to improve that percentage.

Manufacture of Atomic Weapons

A decision to ban development of atomic weapons in ex-enemy countries but not atom research for peaceful purposes, was made unanimously by the Military Committee of the Paris Conference on August 31.

Belgium had sought to ban atom research in an amendment common to all draft treaties to Article 41, which in the Italian draft treaty, forbids Italy to possess, construct or experiment with self-propelled or guided missiles, human torpedoes, guns with a range of more than 30 kilometers and magnetic mines.

General Slavin, the Soviet delegate said: "We must not stop the progress of the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes" and proposed an amendment that the ban should be on "any atomic weapon". Brigadier Arthur Dove, for Britain, agreed saying that the Belgian amendment trespassed on matters before the United Nations.

MacArthur on Clash of Ideologies

The Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in Japan, General MacArthur, gives the warning of a possible "clash of ideologies" in a statement on September 1, marking the first anniversary of the signing of the Japanese surrender terms on board the warship "Missouri."

The statement declares: "The revolution of spirit among the Japanese people represents an unparalleled convulsion in the social history of the world. Its underlying concept will remain the cornerstone of Japanese freedom, unless uprooted by the inroads of some conflicting ideologies which neglect individual freedom, destroy individual initiative and mock individual dignity."

Tit's Apology to U.S.

Marshal Tito has submitted a formal note to the United States Embassy which "roughly meets" the requirements of the United States' demands for an apology for the death of American airmen and assurances that such incidents would not be repeated, it was learnt from a high diplomatic source.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

AMONG THE GREAT By Dilip Kumar Roy With an Introduction by Sir S Radhakrishnan Nalanda Publications Vora & Co 8 Round Buildings Bombay 2

Dilip Kumar Roy the Son of Dwijendra Lal Roy the great Bengali Poet and Dramatist is a distinguished student of the Calcutta University. Immediately after securing academical distinctions he set out on a tour to Europe for a study of Western Music. From 1919 to 1920 I was in Europe meeting many thoughtful people including a few notable thinkers. Each of these I prodded with the one test query 'What is the truth of truths?' I have all along felt with the Gita that the truth seeker must approach the wise—The Tatwadarsis—with *homage enquiry and service*! I have gained a great deal through contacts of men like Bertrand Russell, Romain Rolland, Mahatma Gandhi, Tagore and others. To all of them I owe a debt of deep gratitude. The book under review is a result of these contacts and the correspondence that followed thereafter.

A wise urge led the author to record the conversations with the celebrities and submit them for their revision. The records are therefore authentic.

An artist, a sage, a thinker, a poet and a guru are presented to us in these pages with all the fragrance of their souls. Though these are contemporaries and their thoughts and ideals studied and assessed by competent critics from different angles, the charm of the present brochure lies in the engaging freshness arising from the circumstances that the master and the chela are thrown together. The Guru is filled with the doubts and difficulties of the disciple and their mutual reactions give a peculiar glow and fervour to their minds. No extract, however deftly made, can give an adequate idea of the contact and the readers must be referred to the pages of the book.

GANDHI By Carl Heath Shiva Agarwala & Co Agra Price Rs 1 8 0

To thousands of Indians Gandhi represents the embodiment of the prophetic spirit and the supreme spokesman of their political urge for freedom from the tutelage of British Imperialism. He has been variously described as a saint, a Mahatma, an astute politician, but few will doubt that he is one of those rare personalities thrown up by history, occasionally charged with a definite mission and purpose. In Gandhi's case his deep religious convictions act as absolute directives in political leadership. A born crusader against cruelty, oppression, injustice and slavery in any form, Gandhi is perhaps the most disturbing man in the British Commonwealth. Carl Heath's sympathetic study calls for an intelligent and discriminating appreciation of a remarkable man who by the sublime simplicity of his moral courage has restored to the Indian masses their self respect and a belief in their own humanity.

THE WARLIS By K J Save With a foreword by B G Kher Padma Publications Ltd Bombay

Mr K J Save's interesting monograph on Warlis is a valuable study which at once reflects the intelligent and dispassionate approach of a trained anthropologist and a sympathetic student of the problems of aboriginal tribes. Those who are interested in the problems of the uplift of the aboriginals or Adivasis, especially the Warli tribe, will find this book an informative guide. The book deals with the customs and beliefs regarding marriage, birth, death and religion of the Warlis, one of the aboriginal tribes numbering over two lakhs scattered all over the Thana District of the Bombay Presidency.

SEPTEMBER 1910]

FIFTY MODERN POEMS. Susil Gupta 1, Wellesley Street, Calcutta Rs. 8.

This slim and stimulating volume is an abridgment of John Gasworth's "Fifty years of Modern Verse" and contains a collection of fifty short poems from poets of the modern school. Among the forty poets included in this book we find the familiar names of Quiller-Couch, Abercrombie, Drinkwater, Symonds, Blunden and Davies and some minor poets of this century though one notes the omission of Robert Bridges, Housman and Auden. More, it reveals in a remarkable manner the author's insight and grasp of the social, economical and cultural life of these people.

UTILIZATION OF INDIA'S MAN POWER: By P. S. Naidu. Economic Problems of India Series. Pamphlet No. 1. Rs. 2.

Though we have several economic blue prints for India, no one has yet given us the method by which man-power should be harnessed for the economic welfare of the community. This important factor that man is a psychological animal and as such caution must be used in any scheme aiming at his regimentation in any field is stressed by the author in this lucid pamphlet. Prof. Naidu offers many constructive suggestions by which India's vast man-power may be most economically and efficiently utilized to the best advantage of the country and the welfare of the people.

TIBET. By David Macdonald: Oxford Pamphlets on Indian Affairs. No. 80.

Though Tibet is an isolated tract with its great altitude and extreme climate it has many fascinating aspects in that it has a peculiar form of government whose head is His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the spiritual and temporal ruler of the people enjoying immense powers. This short and readable pamphlet gives an account of the people, their customs and manners, the evolution of Lamaism and many other interesting details, pleading for the development of the country along its traditional channels.

THE RISE AND FALL OF JAPAN. By Sir Frederick Whyte. Royal Institute of International Affairs, London. price 1 sh.

In this lively and informative pamphlet we find a description of Japan in defeat. The author traces how Japan rose to power, the forces at work in Japan in our own time and forecasts a future for that country. He shows unmistakably from authoritative sources how Japan's aggressive foreign policy motivated by the primitive lust for dominion, landed her in war and an ignominious defeat out of which she is gradually recovering.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE PRINCIPLES OF PHILOSOPHY. By H. M. Bhattacharya, M.A., University of Calcutta. Rs. 6 8.

THE COTTON LACE INDUSTRY OF SOUTH INDIA. By Viswanathan Tekumalla, M.A., B.Ed. Senior Assistant, Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society Ltd., Madras.

EVOLUTION AND FRENCH DEMOCRACY: Thacker & Co., Bombay.

OUR EDUCATION. By Swami Nirvedananda. Vidyasaundra, Dhakuni, Bengal.

MYSTERY DRUGS OF INDIA. Thacker & Co., Bombay.

ECONOMIC STABILISATION OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE. By T. N. Ramaswamy, M.A., Nandkishore and Bros., Penares.

RE COLLECTIONS AND REFLECTIONS. By Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, Padma Publications Ltd., Bombay.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. By Shamus Frazer. Thacker & Co. Ltd., Bombay.

TRANSITION IN INDIA FROM WAR TO PEACE. By Gyaachand, Oxford University Press.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN AND WORLD DEMOCRACY. By Prof. Abdur Rahim, Islamic Mission Society, Wellesley Square, Calcutta.

THE HILL TRIBES OF JYPPORE. By Lakshmi Narayana Sahu, M.A., Servants of India Society, Jeypore, Orissa.

JAI HIND. (Hindi Edn.) Jannabhum Prakashan Mandir, Meadows St., Fort, Bombay. Price Rs. 3.

FIRST I. N. A. TRIAL. Edited by V. S. Kulkarni and K. S. N. Murty. Law Academy, 1271 Deccan Gymkhana, Poona. Rs. 5.

INDIAN EMIGRATION TO AMERICA. By S. Chandra-sekhar, Oxford University Press.

COTTAJ INDUSTRY: WHAT THEY ARE By Viswanathan Tekumalla, M.A., B.Ed. Senior Asst. Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society Ltd., Madras.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- Aug 1 At a Press Conference in Bombay Sardar Patel advises Mr Jinnah to drop his threats and make friendly approach
- Aug 2 President Truman rejects the Palestine plan
- Aug 3 Indian and British troops at Basra
- Aug 4 End of Postal strike
- Sir Mirza Ismail assumes charge as President of Nizam's Council
- Aug 5 Cabinet crisis in Turkey
- Madras Premier announces Prohibition in eight districts
- Aug 6 Dr Ma Baw released and back in Rangoon
- Allied planes bomb Indonesian towns
- Aug 7 Sir A Ramaswami Mudaliar assumes charge of Mysore Dewanship
- Sir V T Krishnamachari takes charge as Dewan of Jaipur
- Aug 8 Viceroy confers with Provincial Governors
- Congress Working Committee meets at Allahabad
- Aug 9 Report of the Trade Mission to China is published
- Aug 10 Marshal Auchinleck invited to Empire Generals Conference in London
- Congress Executive reaffirms acceptance of Cabinet plan
- Aug 11 Van Mook permits export of 700 000 tons of Java paddy to India
- Gandhiji replies to Portuguese Governor General
- Aug 12 Viceroy invites Pandit Nehru to form Interim Government
- Aug 13 Death of H G Wells in London
- U S proposal on Palestine handed over to Britain
- Aug 14 Police and strikers fight in S African mines
- Pandit Nehru invites Mr Jinnah to join Interim Government
- Aug 15 Nehru—Jinnah talks fail Jinnah declines to join Interim Government
- Aug 16 Leagues Direct action day marled by hooliganism and looting in Calcutta resulting in 90 deaths and 900 injured
- Aug 17 Cochín Maharaja announces Cabinet rule
- Pandit Nehru meets Viceroy at New Delhi
- Aug 18 Toll of Calcutta riots reported to be over a 1000 killed and 2000 injured
- Aug 19 Sikhs decide to join Interim Govt
- Moulana Azad meets Viceroy
- Aug 20 Bengal Governor reviews Calcutta riot situation
- S I R Labour Union's threat of strike from 24th
- Aug 21 Pt Nehru submits names of Interim Ministers to Viceroy
- Aug 22 U S plane shot down in Yugoslavia
- Tito rejects U S note
- Aug 23 London talks on Palestine
- Jews decide to boycott
- Aug 24 New interim Government personnel announced Viceroy's broadcast
- Aug 25 Viceroy visits Calcutta, scene of tragedy
- Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan stabbed in Simla
- S I R strike commences
- Aug 26 United States accepts Yugoslav's reply to her ultimatum note
- Aug 27 Gandhiji and Nehru confer with Viceroy
- Over two thousand persons arrested in Calcutta
- Aug 28 Indian troops land in Basra
- Frank Anthony appreciates Congress policy
- Aug 29 Congress Working Committee at Delhi discusses current issues
- Aug 30 Jai Prakash nominated to Congress Working Committee
- Members designate of Interim Government meet in Delhi
- Aug 31 Allocation of portfolios for Provisional Government decided



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL

At the Atlantic Charter Conference, Mr. Winston Churchill called on the United States to "divert more and more supplies to the United Kingdom and less to the Soviet Union."

This is alleged by Mr. Elliott Roosevelt, son of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in an article in the magazine *Look*.

Mr. Elliott Roosevelt says that Mr. Churchill "fought our military leaders for two years to delay the cross-channel invasion of Europe," argued constantly to force a change in Allied strategy so that our troops would have to penetrate mountain barriers which he called—with a straight face—the soft under-belly of Europe, and tried to shift the weight of the offensive to protect British interests against his Russian ally—and to the jeopardy of a swift victory.

"At Fulton, Missouri, this same Mr. Churchill ran up a trial balloon for an outright war against this former ally of dark war-time years."

Reverting to conversations with the President during the Atlantic Charter Conference, Mr. Elliott Roosevelt reports the President as saying of the British: "They will be worried about how much of our production we are going to divert to the Russians. I know already how much faith Mr. Churchill has in Russia's ability to stay in the war." Mr. Elliott said that the President snapped his fingers to indicate zero.

He also quotes the President as saying: "We have got to make it clear to the British from the very outset that we don't intend to be simply a good time Charlie who can be used to help the British Empire out of a tight spot, and then be forgotten for ever. "I think I speak as America's President when I say that America won't help England in this war simply so that she will be able to continue to run roughshod over the colonial peoples."

Mr. Elliott Roosevelt reports his father in a conversation as calling Mr. Churchill "a real old Tory of the old school", but saying that he would be able to work with the British Premier.

The President is said to have added: "Don't forget one thing. Winnie has one supreme mission in life, but only one. His one big job is to see that Britain survives this war. His mind is perfect for that of a war leader. But will Winston Churchill lead England after the war? It would never work."

In conclusion Mr. Elliott Roosevelt declares: "The most serious evidence that we are losing the peace is the breakdown of the 'Big Three' unity—unity which is the keystone of peace. Franklin Roosevelt chiselled that keystone and put it in place. A great many men have since been chipping away at this keystone.

"These saboteurs of unity are men who blink the fact that in a world dominated by the United States, Russia and the United Kingdom, all the three must work together if peace is to be maintained. They are men who contend that no self-respecting Power can maintain unity with the Russians."

SRI RAMAKRISHNA

Sri Ramakrishna was the herald of the dawn of a New Age in the world, says Mr D P Lingwood paying his tribute to the Paramahansa in the columns of the *Prabuddha Bharata*

Two outstanding events occurred in the course of the last century which are of permanent importance to the whole race of man, he writes. One was the consolidation of the science of Comparative Religion under the auspices of Oriental learning and the other was the birth—or we would prefer to say the life—of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa

In the East and West, a new and mighty spirit is abroad. It blows from those Himalayan heights on which Sri Ramakrishna entered into the bliss of the Absolute and became one with it. It is destined to fructify the whole world. It will bend the hearts of men like a field of green corn. Never before had the idea occurred to any one that all these religions, all these different avenues of approach to the mansion of the Heavenly Father, might be used by one man in the course of one human life. Certainly none had ever before followed them all and found out by personal experience that they all led up to the same central fact of existence, namely God. But now this truth was made fully manifest in the life of one who was not only the embodiment of God, but also the exemplar of all the different ways in which men might reach Him. The star of the Paramahansa, the Great Indian Swan, is now engraved in the Heavens to guide all those who wander on the seas of time in search of Truth

Eternal. The wanderers may be far asunder, and voyaging on different oceans, and they may never see each other, but *he* sees them all, and knows that they will all ultimately arrive at the Bosom of Light in which he shines enthroned.

THE MYTH OF THE MARTIAL RACE

An analysis of the relative heroism of the Hindus and Muslims of India shown during the war is made by Jatindra Mohan Datta, MSc, F R S S in the *Modern Review* and this has led him to the conclusion that the Hindus are twice more courageous than the Muslims.

'The proportion of the Muhammadans to the total population of India is 24 per cent.' In the Army, on account of the policy pursued by the British Government and the division of population into martial and non-martial races, the proportion of the Muhammadans was much higher. During the First Great War of 1914-1918, it was in the region of about 40 per cent. Yet out of the 11 VC's won by Indians 3 or 27 per cent were by Muhammadans. They were hardly able to keep up their communal quota. The first Indian to receive Victoria Cross was Risaldar Badlu Singh of 14th Murray's Jat Lancers.

In the last World War, 31 VC's have been won by the Indian Army. Of these 3 are by the British Officers of the Indian Army, of the remaining 28, only 4 are by the Muhammadans.

The first man to receive a VC in this war is a Hindu, another interesting thing is that while the Hindu recipients are of all ranks from the common sepoy to the King's commissioned officer, no Muhammadan officer has received the

But these are minor points. The broad fact remains that the Muhammadans have secured only 14 per cent. of the V.C.'s in the Second World War.

So we find the proportion of Muhammadan V.C.'s to be very much below their strength in the different categories of the armed forces. As the Indian V.C.'s are mostly drawn from the Indian infantry, and as in absolute numbers, the infantry is the largest category, we shall assume that the all-round strength of the Muhammadans is not greater than 24 per cent.—an assumption which is in favour of the Muhammadans. In this view, the relative heroism of the Hindus and the Muhammadans works out to be in the ratio of 1.94 : 1. In other words, he says, the Hindus are twice as much courageous and brave as the Muhammadans.

The Hindus are twice more ready to defend India; they are twice more courageous and brave than the Muhammadans. The coincidence of the measure does not seem to be accidental but fundamental. The same factors and causes which make the Hindu more ready to defend India make him more courageous and brave and heroic to perform acts which merit the award of Victoria Cross.

Thus the higher the level of heroism, the lesser becomes the number of Muhammadans, concludes Mr. Datta. Where deliberate and complete self-sacrifice is required—a very high stage of heroism, the number of Muhammadans is likely to be nil. Is it for this reason that the number of the Muhammadan "revolutionaries" is nil as noticed by the Sedition Committee?

THE ATOM BOMB

Nothing henceforth can remain unaffected by the atom bomb, but we are still a long way from being able to utilise in small quantities for the needs of everyday life the products with which we know how to split the atom, says Prof. Albert Einstein, in an article in the *Sunday Express*.

It is certain, however, he says that the atomic forces of uranium and plutonium will be used in very large centres for distributing energy and in preparing for a destructive war on a grand scale.

"We are at the dawn of a new world", he says. "Scientists have given to men considerable powers. Politicians have seized hold of them.

"If there were another war tomorrow, with the development of military technique and the terrible force of new arms resulting from these discoveries, the ravages it would bring would be such that towns, peoples and nations would be crushed for ever, and if politics as we see them go on their way without control, if crystallisation of opposing forces keeps on, atrocious war will be inevitable. It will come very quickly.

"If it is not possible to create security by civil, political and social action, the world is very close to going up in smoke.

"I deplore, with regard to the atomic secret, for example, that actions have been taken which increase the Russians' distrust of the impartial nature of international arrangements."

LIFE RESTORED AFTER DEATH

Thanks to Dr Negovski of Russia men who were once left for dead are now operating lathes and driving tractors. That is the thrilling story of successful operations of which we have an interesting account in the *Magazine Digest* of July. The account is based on articles that have appeared in *Nature* London and the *American Review of Soviet Medicine* New York.

The new revival technique has been worked out by Dr V A Negovski and his associates in the Laboratory of Experimental Physiology at the Neurosurgical Research Institute of the Department of Health of the Soviet Union. The Russian scientists began applying their methods to reviving soldiers killed in battle, and have since carried the plan into peacetime life. They have now made their information and technique available to doctors in the United States and other countries.

Dr Negovski bases his revival technique on the discovery that the body does not die all at once. "Death is rarely a sudden cessation of life," he finds. "It is really a process involving many intermediary stages from life to death."

Thus, though the heart may stop beating, many other parts of the body may be still alive. The body may be stilled, and a doctor may pronounce the person dead. Yet this is only 'clinical death' and it is often possible to reanimate the patient and start the vital processes functioning once more. Only long after this first period of death—not until 'biological death,' or death of all the various organs of the body—is the person beyond hope of revival.

The Russian physician trained a number of teams of specialists for testing the technique in emergency hospitals. One of the first to undergo the treatment was Valentin Cherepanov, a private in the Red Army. Cherepanov was severely wounded

in the thigh, and unconscious when brought to the hospital. He was placed on the operating table, but his condition grew worse. Finally his heart stopped beating, breathing ceased, and nervous reflexes came to an end.

The surgeon in charge made a routine entry "Death following shock and acute hemorrhage."

As he made the entry, Dr Negovski entered the operating room. Three minutes later, he went to work. One minute later, Cherepanov's heart began to beat. Three minutes later, he began to breathe. Within an hour, he recovered consciousness.

Shortly after that he fell into a normal sleep. When his name was called, he opened his eyes and answered questions. He asked for a drink. His breathing was even and his pulse regular.

To day, Cherepanov is up and around, leading a normal life. He finds it hard to believe, and somewhat amusing, that he had been dead "actually dead."

Cherepanov was one of the 51 people revived from death by Negovski and his associates. In all cases, the men had died from severe injuries to their internal organs or limbs after the usual means of saving life had failed.

Restoration from death is of value only in cases where the nature of the injuries does not exclude recovery. Where some vital organ has been injured beyond hope of treatment by surgery, there is little point in restoring life, for it will be only temporary.

There is real hope, however, for those who die before or during an operation. Revival may permit the surgeon to complete the operation (as was done with the 12 Russians who are still living after being brought back from death).

Others who may be successfully treated include those who die from shock or exposure, drowning, asphyxiation, loss of blood, or in some cases during an illness later be conquered.

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

HYDERABAD REFORMS

The Congress Working Committee adopted a resolution criticising the proposed constitutional changes in Hyderabad State and approved of the decision of the Executive of the State Congress to reject them.

"These proposals," the Committee point out, "are wrongly conceived, limited in scope and full of checks and reservations and are apparently intended not to introduce any measure of freedom for the people, but to preserve the privileged and the vested interests and perpetuate the feudal conditions that prevail in the State. They would have been objectionable at any time as the principles on which they are based are opposed to all canons of justice and democracy. At a time when India is on the eve of Independence, they are wholly out of keeping with the minimum demands of the situation and cannot be fitted in with any Constitution for a Free India, which may be evolved in the near future."

SIR M. ISMAIL'S CALL

In his first public utterance since the assumption of office as President of the Nizam's Executive Council, Sir Mirza Ismail broadcast an address to the people of Hyderabad on August 8. He predicted a "mighty and glorious future" for the State, but warned that great effort would be required to achieve the same. "There is no hope of achieving anything worthwhile unless we are all determined to purify this place of personal and party strife."

Sir Mirza Ismail appealed to the people of Hyderabad to work "in a spirit of mutual trust and confidence."

Baroda

PROHIBITION IN BARODA

"The policy of the Baroda Government so far as prohibition is concerned was temperance and not total prohibition. The Government will see there will be no shops near labour centres while they will await the results of the prohibition experiment in British India," said Sir Brojendra Mitter, Dewan President, when the Baroda Legislative Assembly discussed cut motions under the head 'excise.'

BROADCASTING IN BARODA

The first broadcasting station in Gujrat-Kathiawar will start functioning in Baroda state early next year. The installation of a five kilowatt-transmitter has been already started and a skeleton programme staff has been recruited. The decision to have a radio station in Baroda was taken some years ago but the import of transmitting plant was delayed on account of the war. The only radio stations in Indian States, functioning at present, are in south—Hyderabad, Mysore and Travancore.

Bikaner

BIKANER RULER'S CALL FOR CO OPERATION

The Maharaja of Bikaner, in a recent speech, announced the release of seven political prisoners, who had either been detained or convicted.

His Highness said that there was no desire on his part or that of his Government to delay in any manner the fulfilment of his promise. It was on the contrary, his firm intention to go ahead with the proposals and give effect to them at as early a date as possible. The Proclamation, which would be issued on August 31, would make clear the more important details, such as the machinery for drafting the constitution, the arrangement for the interim period and above all the specified period in which Responsible Government would be automatically established so as to leave nothing to

Mysore

THE NEW DEWAN

A Proclamation announcing the appointment of Dewan Bahadur Sir Arcot Ramaswami Mudaliar as the Dewan of Mysore was published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* on August 7 under the signature of the Maharaja.

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar has also been appointed *Provisio* President of the Council.

Another *Gazette Extraordinary* published the same day notified the retirement of Mr N. Madhava Rao as Dewan with effect from that day. His Highness the Maharaja bidding him farewell tenders his warm thanks for his loyal services extending over 39 years and expresses the hope that he might live long and enjoy the leisure to which he is so well entitled.

RESPONSIBLE GOVT FOR MYSORE

A memorial has been submitted to the Maharaja of Mysore by 26 elected members of the Mysore Legislative Council, including all 18 Congressmen, praying for the issue of a proclamation establishing Responsible Government in the State under the aegis of the Ruler.

Urging the necessity for setting up a Ministry responsible to the Legislature, the memorial points out that no Ministry, which has not the willing support of the people, can tackle satisfactorily problems of post war reconstruction and ensure peace, happiness and contentment to the State.

The memorial also pleads that Mysore should set an example to other States by sending only elected representatives to the Constituent Assembly.

Travancore

SIR C P ON STATES CO OPERATION

On the eve of the meeting of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress at Wardha, Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar re-emphasised the stand taken by the States with regard to the political future of India at the Sri Chitra Council, Trivandrum, on Aug 8. The Government of Travancore adhere to the determination expressed on behalf of the Government and on behalf of the Indian States generally that they are willing and anxious to go into an All India Union with fairly wide powers of an all India character vested in the Centre.

Speaking on behalf of many Indian States with whose opinion he was acquainted, Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar said that the States were perfectly willing to negotiate and come to terms with the Congress on two conditions and on two conditions alone. The conditions were firstly, that the dynastic position of the Rulers of the States should be preserved intact. Secondly, the idea that only one form of Government, namely, the system of government which the Congress advocated could be thought of by the Rulers or anybody else in connection with the new constitutional set up should be given up in the course of the negotiations. The idea put forward by Dr Pattabhi Sitaramayya that Rulers of Indian States were face to face with the prospects of dethronement was not one to stimulate co-operation on the part of the Rulers.

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar, affirmed that this State, like many other States, was willing to negotiate with the Congress and make common cause with them for the purpose of attaining Indian independence.

Cochin**A KERALA PROVINCE**

"There is in India no more precise, cultural and linguistic a unit than Kerala. I have arrived at the definite conclusion that Kerala must unite if it has to save itself from cultural extinction," declared the Maharaja of Cochin in a message to the Cochin Legislative Council on the opening day of its Budget session.

The Maharaja said: "If we remain as we are our voice in the future Union Government of India will never be heard. It will only be a faint and ineffective murmur. For its own sake and for the good of the country as a whole, Kerala must unite and function as a separate and cohesive unit in a great Federation of India.

In order to achieve this, Malabar, Cochin and Travancore will have to join together and devise ways and means to frame a scheme of Government for the whole of Kerala without destroying the connection of the people to the ancient Ruling Houses."

Pandit Nehru, referring to the Cochin ruler's statement, commented:

"In an important southern State, however, the Maharaja has recently made a statement, which it is so pleasant to read after so many assertions elsewhere of autocracy and the Ruler's privileges. The Maharaja has accepted the objective of Responsible Government for the State and I hope he will soon give effect to it."

RESPONSIBLE GOVT. FOR COCHIN

In the Cochin Council the other day, Sir George Boag, Dewan President, made a statement announcing that steps would be taken to constitute an Advisory Committee of seven to implement the announcement made in the Council on the opening day of the Budget session by H. H. the Maharaja.

Jaipur**SIR V. T. K ON RURAL UPLIFT**

"It will always be my endeavour, as it was that of Sir Mirza Ismail, to assist in the establishment of sound and healthy conventions and in upholding and strengthening the position of the Assembly," said Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, Prime Minister of Jaipur, addressing the opening session of the Jaipur Representative Assembly on August 13, and welcoming "the opportunity, so soon after assuming charge of his office, of meeting representatives from all parts of the State and discussing important matters affecting the well-being of the people."

Referring to the State Budget placed before the Assembly, Sir V. T. Krishnamachari said: "Conditions to-day are special and the Budget which reflects these conditions presents some abnormal features. It is difficult at the present time to forecast with accuracy what pattern a normal Budget of the future will be and what far-reaching changes in taxation and allocation of expenditure may be needed as the years go on. One thing, however, can be stated with absolute certainty. More and more of the resources of the State will have to be devoted to the improvement in the conditions of the rural population and, as a corollary, the urban population should themselves find an ever-increasing proportion of finances required for providing the rural folk with the amenities they so urgently need."

Gwalior**GWALIOR RULER'S DECISION**

The Maharaja of Gwalior has decided to nominate two non-officials of his choice to be Ministers in the State Government. They will be entrusted with certain departments which closely affect the masses.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

SATYAGRAHA IN SOUTH AFRICA

Under the caption "South Africa" Mahatma Gandhi writes in *Harijan*

The heroic struggle of the Indian settlers in South Africa continues with unabated zeal. It promises to be prolonged. The longer the resisters are made to suffer the greater will be their glory and regard. It is true of all long suffering.

What the Government of the Union of South Africa has done so deliberately is not going to be changed suddenly even for the sufferings of the brave men and women. This is said not to damp the zeal of the fighters but to steer them for greater and longer suffering. Their spokesmen when they were in India were told in plain language that they must not expect the struggle to close quickly. Time is always in favour of the sufferer for the simple reason that tyranny becomes more and more exposed as it is continued. In reality the struggle appears to have a long lease of life or shorter when the result is a certainty.

S A INDIAN DELEGATES TO U N A

The number of the South African Indian Congress delegation leaving for the United Nations Assembly meeting to assist the Government of India delegation in the presentation of the Indian case has been reduced to four. They are Messrs A I Kajeer, A Christopher, P R Pather and H A Naidoo. All of them have expressed their willingness to go.

East Africa

INDIAN DELEGATION TO E AFRICA

The Government of India have had under consideration the situation arising from the proposed immigration restrictions into the East African territories of Kenya, Uganda, Zanzibar and Tanganyika in so far as they affect Indians says a Press Note. They have decided to send a delegation to East Africa consisting of Raja Sir Maharaj Singh CIE, Mr K Sarwar Hasan, Bar at Law, Secretary Indian Institute of International Affairs and Mr C S Jha ICS.

The Delegation will meet members of the Indian community in East Africa and the officials of the East African Governments and after making a study of the facts relating to the proposed immigration restrictions submit a report to the Government of India. The Delegation has left for East Africa.

Malaya

RELIEF GRANT TO INDIANS

A grant of Rs 10 lakhs has been made by the Government of India for the relief of distress among Indian residents of Malaya states. Mr S K Chettur, Government of India representative.

Rs 5 lakhs will be spent in the next six months, of which one lakh is to be distributed in monetary relief among widows, unemployed labourers and the aged. The other four lakhs will be spent mainly on cloth.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CONGRESS AND THE CABINET PLAN

The Congress Working Committee meeting at Wardha on August 10, adopted a resolution making it clear that while the Congress did not approve of all the proposals contained in the State Paper they accepted the scheme in its entirety. The Resolution runs:

"The Working Committee regrets to note that the Council of the All-India Muslim League, reversing their previous decision, have decided not to participate in the Constituent Assembly. In this period of rapid transition from dependence on a foreign power to full independence, when intricate political and economic problems have to be faced and solved, the largest measure of co-operation among the people of India and their representatives is called for, so that the change-over would be smooth and to the advantage of all concerned.

"The Committee realises that there are differences in the outlook and the objective of the Congress and the Muslim League. Nevertheless in the larger interests of the country as a whole and the freedom of the people of India, the Committee appeals for the co-operation of all those who seek freedom and the good of the country, in the hope that co-operation in the common tasks may lead to the solution of many of India's problems.

"The Committee further noted that criticisms have been advanced on behalf

of the Muslim League to the effect that the Congress acceptance of the proposals contained in the statement of May 16 was conditional. The Committee wish to make it clear that while they did not approve of all the proposals contained in this statement, they accepted the scheme in its entirety."

The resolution continued: "They interpreted it so as to resolve the inconsistency contained in it and fill the omissions in accordance with the principles laid down in that statement. They hold that provincial autonomy is a basic provision and each Province has the right to decide whether to form or join a group or not. The question of interpretations will be decided by the procedure laid down in the statement itself and the Congress will advise its representatives in the Constituent Assembly to function accordingly.

"The Committee have emphasised the sovereign character of the Constituent Assembly, that is, its right to function and draw up the constitution for Indjá without interference of any external power or authority, but the Assembly will naturally function within the internal limitations which are inherent in its task and will further seek the largest measure of co-operation in drawing up the constitution of free India allowing the greatest measure of freedom and protection for all just claims and interests. . . .

"The Committee hope that the Muslim League and all others concerned in the wider interests of the nation as well as of their own will join in this great task."

Utterances of the Day

THE VICEROY'S BROADCAST

I shall implement fully H M G's policy of giving the new Government the maximum freedom in the day to day administration of the country ' declared the Viceroy on Aug 24 announcing the personnel of the New Government

Lord Wavell added In the field of Provincial Autonomy of course my new Government will not have any power or indeed any desire to intervene in the field of Provincial Administration

Making it clear that the offer made to the Muslim League was still open the Viceroy said that the League could propose to him five names for places in a Government of 14 of which six would be Congress nominees and three would be representatives of the minorities ' Provided these names are acceptable to me and HMG they will be included in the Government which will be re formed '

This offer to re form the Government if the League decides to come in would imply that the three included in the present list of 12 would step aside making room for the Leaguers

Emphasizing the need for a Coalition Government in the interests of the country at the present moment the Viceroy said ' This is a view which I know the Congress President and his colleagues hold as strongly as I do His efforts like mine will still be directed to persuading the League to join the Government '

Declaring that under the new Government in which the War Member will be an Indian the constitutional position of the Armed Forces will in no way be changed, the Viceroy said ' They still owe allegiance to the King Emperor to whom and Parliament I am still responsible "

RADHAKRISHNAN'S WARNING

Sir S Radhakrishnan's Vice Chancellor Benares Hindu University, addressing a meeting of the students of the University held to commemorate the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak said ' The country is in a revolutionary mood but it is not right to argue that a revolution can be brought about only by an overthrow of the established Government by force and bloodshed '

'In the way of force and bloodshed lies madness ' warned Sir S Radhakrishnan referring to the present deteriorated political situation of the country He said that people were in a mood of anger and frustration in a mood of doubt and questioning There was a passionate desire to achieve political independence and economic security but these legitimate ambitions were being used to stir the masses into blind hatreds

Sir Sarvapalli observed that the numerous strikes and threats of direct action showed a revolutionary mind He said that it was a common trait of all advocates of revolution that along with a fundamental kindness and compassion a cruel disregard for the lives of their opponents dwelled in them He urged that responsible leadership should act peacefully before resorting to direct action

'It would be deadly to dissect the body of a nation simply because we are unable to reach any agreement ' said Sir Sarvapalli emphasizing that the real problems before them were economic and economic grievances had economic remedies He said that the Constituent Assembly should deal not only with political structure but also with the socio economic aspects of society as national awakening was the awakening culturally socially

THE INTERIM GOVT. AT THE CENTRE

His Majesty the King has accepted the resignation of the present members of the Governor-General's Executive Council, and has been pleased to appoint the following as members of the Interim Government.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations.

Sardar Baldev Singh: Defence.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Home, including Information and Broadcasting.

Dr. John Matthai: Finance.

Mr. S. Asaf Ali: Communications (War Transport and Railway).

Dr. Rajendra Prasad: Agriculture and Food.

Mr. Jagjivan Ram: Labour.

Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan: Health, Education, and Arts.

Syed Ali Zaheer: Legislative, Posts and Air.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari: Industries and Supplies.

Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose: Works, Mines and Power.

Mr. Cooyarji Hormusji Bhabha: Commerce.

Two more Muslim members will be appointed later.

The Interim Government took office on September 2.

THE SIKHS AND THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The Panthic Board has decided to lift the boycott of the Constituent Assembly.

The Congress Working Committee, it may be recalled, passed a resolution at its recent Wardha session appealing to the Sikhs to participate in the Constituent Assembly and assuring them that "the Congress will give all possible support in removing their legitimate grievances and in securing adequate safeguards for the protection of their just interests in the Punjab."

SARDAR BALDEV SINGH ON MR. JINNAH'S MOVE

Sardar Baldev Singh, Leader of the Panthic M.L.A.'s in the Punjab Assembly and Development Minister, Punjab, now member of the Interim Government in charge of Defence, in a press interview expressing satisfaction over the revocation of the Panthic Board's decision to boycott the Constituent Assembly made a pointed reference to the Muslim League's policy of boycott and direct action and characterised it as "declaration of war against the Sikhs" and inconsistent with Mr. Jinnah's former attitude towards direct action resorted to by the Congress in recent years.

Sardar Baldev Singh said: "Whenever Congress decided on direct action for achieving the country's freedom Mr. Jinnah opposed it consistently and declared that direct action by the Congress was in fact meant to dominate the Muslims.

In 1942 when the Congress raised the slogan of "Quit India" Mr. Jinnah repeated publicly that the move was not against the British but against the Muslims. Now it is the Muslim League that has set out on the path of direct action and its aim is to establish sovereign state of Pakistan. "May I ask Mr. Jinnah if his move is in fact not a declaration of war against the Sikhs and whether, if he succeeds it would not amount to dominating the Sikh community?"

FUTURE OF FRENCH INDIA

His Excellency M. Baron, Governor of French India, addressing a Press Conference at Government House at Mahe, on August 1, said:

"People of France value greatly the friendship of the people of India. The existence of French India shall not be an obstacle in the way of Indian progress. On the contrary, it must help towards it and must be a token thereof.

INDIAN LANGUAGES AS MEDIA

The Nagpur University has decided to introduce Hindi, Marathi, and Urdu as compulsory media of instruction in all schools with effect from July next year.

The Nagpur University has approached the Central Provinces Government for a grant of Rs. one lakh for preparation of text books in Indian languages.

The Vice Chancellor of the Nagpur University, Mr Justice Puranick addressing the University said that English has been completely eliminated as a medium of instruction.

Mr Justice W R Puranick added that last year the University allowed introduction of Indian languages as media of instruction in the colleges of Nagpur and Wardha and the results of the experiment were considered very successful. Mr Puranick expressed the hope that the Central Provinces High School Board would also take similar action.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Government of India have appointed the following as additional members of the University Grants Committee for the period ending June 3 1950: Sir Rustom P Masani, lately Vice Chancellor, Bombay University; Bombay Dr Zakir Hussain, Principal, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi; Dr C V Chandra Sekharan, lately pro Vice Chancellor, Travancore University.

The number of members of the Committee has been raised from four to seven in view of the additional responsibility that the University Grants Committee will have to undertake in the development of University Education in this country.

MR SAIYIDAIN

Mr K G Saiyidain, Educational Adviser to Rampur Government, has been invited by the International Headquarters of the New Fellowship London and the Australian Section of the New Education Fellowship to visit Australia next month as a member of an International Delegation of educationists. He will tour the various States and participate in Educational Conferences organized at various capitals to discuss the central theme of 'Education for International Understanding'. Amongst the topics on which Mr K G Saiyidain has been invited to lecture are the following:

- 1 Education for Peace
- 2 The Shape of Things to come in Education
- 3 The Education Ideology of Islam with special reference to the Philosophy of IQBAL
- 4 Education in India
- 5 What part can the UNESCO play in promoting peace and International Understanding.

THE BANE OF COMMUNALISM

Of all the evils that harm us the most distressing is the evil of communalism and communalism is showing its head even in sanctuaries of learning. It is true that no man has a greater right than another to be educated. But higher University education and higher technical education must be regarded as the privilege of only those who have proved themselves specially fit. Merit irrespective of community should decide the privilege, observed Mr T Prakasam, Premier of Madras, addressing the Convocation of the Madras University, on Aug 8.

BOMBAY MONEYLENDERS' BILL

With the object of improving the economic condition of the bulk of the rural population and the poorer sections of the population in towns and cities and of protecting them from exploitation by other sections of the community, the Government of Bombay propose to introduce in the forthcoming session of the Legislative Assembly a Bill to control the operations of moneylenders in the province.

The Bill is based on the original Bill introduced in 1933 by the Congress Ministry then in office with a few changes considered necessary to secure more efficient control of the business of money-lending.

The provisions of the Bill aim at securing registration and licensing of money-lenders, limitation of the rates of interest and protection of debtors from molestation and intimidation.

DETENTION UNDER DEFENCE RULES

The Government of Madras have decided that conviction for a political offence or detention under the Defence of India Rules should not be a bar to appointments in the services of local boards and municipal councils.

A Press Note issued in this connection states that the relevant rules are being amended accordingly. Such of those persons as have been discharged from the service of any local board or municipal council on any of the grounds referred to above may send their applications for re-instatement to the executive authorities of the local bodies concerned. The executive authorities have been directed to consider these applications carefully and issue suitable orders.

SETTING UP OF LEGAL CONVENTIONS

Sir Patrick Spens, Chief Justice of India, paid a visit on August 10, to the Madras Advocates' Association, High Court Buildings, and had an informal discussion with the members of the Association. He was received by Mr. P. Somasundaram, President of the Association, and other office-bearers and conducted to the Association Hall, where he was introduced to the members.

Concerning the work that might come up for consideration before the Federal Court now and hereafter in respect of the interpretation of the various statutes to be enacted by the different provinces of India, His Lordship suggested the establishment of a liaison or a legal convention between the Centre and the Provinces. Such a procedure, if followed, would avoid any pronouncement by the Court regarding the validity or otherwise of any part of the statute or statutes enacted by the different provinces pertaining to the problems of common interest.

BHOWAL SANYASI CASE APPEAL

The Indian "funeral pyre" case, in which the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council gave judgment upholding the claim of Mr. R. N. Roy that he was the son of the Raja of Bhowal, was further mentioned to Their Lordships.

Mr. D. N. Pritt, Counsel for Mr. R. N. Roy, made a submission for costs.

Lord Thankerton said nothing new had been said by counsel, and the finding in the judgment—that in the very special circumstances of the case, there would be no order as to the costs of appeal—would stand.

PROBLEMS OF INSURANCE

Mr Jagmohandas J Kapadia writing in the *Eastern Economist* under the above caption on the restrictions on investment of life funds says

These restrictions have been imposed on the recommendations of the Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Committee (which consisted of men of business and experience) as a safeguard against the abuses that had come to light in the course of the Committee's investigation. It is evident that the 3½ per cent Loan conversion or the cheap money policy of the Government has nothing to do with these restrictions. They must stand or fall on their merits and, in view of the findings of the Committee who can say that they are not fully justified.

If the cheap money policy is prejudicial to insurance companies counterbalancing relief must be sought in other directions e.g., taxation. To suggest that the restrictions should be removed is to perpetuate the abuses.

It is argued that the restrictions seek to penalise the many white for the sins of the few black. For one thing in a matter like this such argument cannot admit of mathematical precision. Nevertheless the abuses being fairly widespread the legislature was entitled to interfere. Having taken some part in the Committee's inquiry I am in a position to assert that the abuses were not confined to one or two isolated instances only and that the culprits included some prominent companies and parties who otherwise pass out as commercial and industrial magnates. Apart

from the above, the argument has its limitations when applied to *credit* institutions like insurance companies. Allow a prominent insurance company to play ducks and drakes with public funds, and you begin to shatter the basic foundation of public confidence and trust on which the entire insurance structure rests. This, I submit, is the angle from which the problem should be looked at.

It is also argued that the restrictions are so rigorous as to affect adversely the already dwindling interest income of companies. The rigorous character of the provisions is no excuse for their removal if they otherwise justified. It would however be interesting to state that similar provisions exist in the Articles of Association of some well known companies e.g., the Oriental.

UNITED INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE
CO LTD

The report of the Directors of the United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd., Madras for the year ending 31st December, 1945 shows that during the year, 16,438 new policies amounting to Rs 3,76,79,496 were issued. The total assurances in force on 31st December, 1945 including bonus additions amounted to Rs 13,98,54,181 of which Rs 65,27,434 is reassured. The Policyholders Trust Fund at the end of the year stood at Rs 2,61,65,354 as against Rs 2,25,66,530 at the beginning of the year. The total amount of claims paid during the year amounted to Rs 13,33,491.

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES

Mr. J. V. Joshi, Adviser to the Reserve Bank of India and India's representative on the International Bank, is understood to have submitted a memorandum to the Government of India and all the Provincial Governments on the subject of India's sterling balances and the problems raised on account of the proposal to scale down these balances.

In his memorandum, Mr. Joshi is said to have maintained that according to the statement made at the Bretton-Woods Conference in 1944 by the late Lord Keynes, the Economic Adviser to His Majesty's Government, these debts should be settled honourably because they were honourably and generously given, and that any scaling down would mean a repudiation of Lord Keynes' assurances.

INDIAN INVESTMENT IN BRITISH FIRMS

The "Secret History" column of the left-wing co-operative Sunday newspaper *Reynolds News* reported on August 18: "Indian Big Business having bought up the Indian sterling debt, Indian railways and many British-owned, concerns in Bombay are now investing millions of their wartime profits in British industrial shares like the Imperial Chemical Industries and Dunlop".

"Four London firms of stockbrokers last week bought one million sterling British industrial shares for clients in India, writes Bernard Harris, City Editor of the *Sunday Express*. Orders came in for five, ten and twenty thousand shares at a time. The buyers were not fussy. They were prepared to take almost anything if it was

offered in sufficient quantity. There may be more of it to come. The signs are that our pending withdrawal from India is making some investors British and Indian, nervous. So they are getting their money out while there is time.

"This Indian buying, coming on the top of inflationary tendencies in evidence here, may prolong the six-years-old "bull" market which has already set up a near record for longevity. At all events, brokers were feeling decidedly more cheerful last week as prices rose."

DEVALUATION OF RUPEE SUGGESTED

The Trade Sub-Committee of the National Planning Committee has suggested the possibility of dissociating the external from the internal value of the rupee. The Sub-Committee says that India's future course of trade will depend on India's currency policy. Some degree of devaluation of the rupee will be necessary if Indian economy is to be put reasonably on a competitive basis as compared with the economics of other countries. An unduly high exchange ratio will fritter away India's sterling balances. Stressing the need for a large reduction in imports and the required imports based on priorities, the Sub-Committee says that otherwise there would be a succession of unfavourable balance which would produce adverse repercussions on Indian industries.

On the question of exports, the Sub-Committee says that the composition of exports may be changed in order to obtain a more favourable balance but this will largely depend on the establishment of heavy capital goods industries.

RESETTLEMENT OF EX W A C'S

The Countess of Carlisle in a broadcast talk spoke about the plans made by the Government of India to help ex service women of the W A C (1) to find employment

The Countess referred at length to the Labour Department's general settlement scheme for ex service personnel and said "It must be obvious to every thinking woman that the greatest need in India to day is for doctors, nurses and teachers. It is in these professions that women can make their most important contribution to the development of their country and, appreciating this need, the education and health department of the Central and Provincial Governments are increasing the facilities for having in the nursing and teaching professions "

'No country,' Lady Carlisle stated 'can reach the full height of its development unless its women are prepared to take an active part in that development'

HUSBAND SHORTAGE

Americans have suffered a set back on the English marriage market. English women are again showing a preference for English men as husbands

The head of a Bond Street marriage bureau says that the situation has changed completely since 'Victory in Europe Day'

"Up to that date most young women who came here wanted anything but English husbands', he said 'They particularly favoured Americans, apparently because they thought that if they got to America they would all love like Hedy Lamarr. Now, quite suddenly they are clamouring for Englishmen. As Shakespeare said

'Was feather ever so lightly blown as this multitude?'

He revealed that women aged between 35 and 42 are the most difficult clients to get fixed up. "They try to be coy and young", he said "When they are about 42, the job gets easier—I can get women of 55 married off as easily as shelling peas"

But there is a 'shortage of husbands, however 'There are not nearly enough young men to go round", said the marriage marketeer

'Money does not always count. I have had a woman who is a multimillionaire on my books for months. The last man I introduced her to wrote to me saying — 'There are some things money cannot buy. She talks—how she talks!' Or, as Seneca said, 'Alas, for the folly of the loquacious'.

WOMEN IN THE LEGISLATURE

Srimati Kamala Devi referred to the selection of women candidates to the Constituent Assembly in an interview to the A P I recently and said

"We women do not ever wish to make sex a qualification to secure anything. If we press for larger opportunities to women to function in every field, it is mainly because, unfortunately, sex is still made a disqualification. All we ask for is that wherever there are able women, they should be given equal opportunity with men. It is most regrettable that everywhere, since men boss organisations and fields of work, women get hustled out in the ruthless and indecent scramble for seats and offices. In power politics women are at a great disadvantage. It is most unfortunate that, in spite of the Congress Working Committee's direction to the Provincial Legislature Parties to elect at least two women from each and more if possible there is such reluctance in implementing it"

H. G. WELLS

The passing of H. G. Wells removes from the English scene one of the most characteristic figures of the age. Born and brought up at a time when it was commonly believed that the march of scientific and social progress would be uninterrupted, Wells inherited the easy optimism of the Victorians.

Wells was born on September 21, 1866. He left the Bromley Academy in 1879 and began life as a draper and was afterwards a pupil teacher, then a chemist and then a draper again.

His first appearance in print was in the *Fortnightly Review* in 1890, edited at that time by Frank Harris, to which he contributed a paradox. "The Rediscovery of the Unique."

In a Modern Utopia published in 1905, he summed up his ideas as to how the Government of ideal society should be carried on.

In 1932 he published the work "Wealth and Happiness of Mankind."

Wells grew prolific as he advanced in years. He wrote his "Experiment in Autobiography" in 1934 and two years later the "Anatomy of Frustration"

He was surprised by the success which his "Outline of History" attained.

From history and sociology he turned with ease to the production of gripping scientific romances.

WORK OF BHANDARKAR INSTITUTE

The efforts of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute of Poona in the field of Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic studies were praised by Sir John Colville, Governor of Bombay.

The Governor was specially glad to learn that the Institute did not confine itself to Sanskrit literature but had also a branch dealing with Persian and Arabic studies. Sir John said: "Such parallel studies and finding common ground between the Hindu and Muslim cultures may be of great importance in helping to bridge the unfortunate political and religious schisms that divide this country."

SIR JOSEPH BHORE

The Prime Minister of Bhopal, Sir Joseph Bhore, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Italian Economic Committee of the Paris Conference at the Committee's inaugural meeting.

After thanking the Committee for the great honour done to him, Sir Joseph said, "I shall endeavour to the best of my ability to deserve the confidence which you have shown in me by the expression of your vote this evening, which I regard personally as a generous acknowledgment of the part my country has played in the war against Italy and her Allies."

MR. PULLA REDDI

The Mysore Government issued the following communique: "The Government of Madras have intimated that they are at present experiencing a shortage of officers for running the administration. In compliance with their request, the Mysore Government have agreed to replace the services of Mr. O. Pulla Reddi, I.C.S., at their disposal. Mr. Pulla Reddi is reverting with His Highness's good wishes and appreciation of the services rendered by him as Minister."

RAJA MAHENDRA PRATAP

"I was longing to see the shores of my motherland and I am supremely happy that to-day I am once again in the land of my birth with my brethren", said Raja Mahendra Pratap of Hathras U.P., who arrived in Madras last month from Japan, after 31 years exile. Raja Mahendra Pratap left India in his 28th year and is now back home at the age of 59, looking old with a grey flowing beard but full of vigour and enthusiasm.

MUSLIM KNIGHTS OF BOMBAY

It is understood that Sir Rahimtoolah Chinoy, Sir Sultan Chinoy and Sir Fazal Rahimtoolah, declined to surrender their Knighthood, when approached by the Provincial Muslim League to do so. They added they had no intention of following the League any longer as they were unable to accept its present policy.

DR COCHRANE AND LEPROSY

The noted specialist on leprosy Dr R G Cochrane who has just completed a tour of the United States expects to return to India as Principal of Vellore Medical College says a *Reuter* message from New York. Asserting that a lot of leprosy is as harmless as a birthmark Dr Cochrane deplors the public hysteria with which most people view the disease. It is no more disgraceful to contract leprosy than to catch measles says Dr Cochrane. It is a medical problem just as cancer and tuberculosis are medical problems. Most adults are immune he says and even serious types of leprosy can be cured in early stages.

SHAMPOO FOR STOMACH ULCERS

Alkyl Sulfates the chemicals used in so called soapless soaps and shampoos may provide a remedy for stomach ulcers it appears from studies reported by Drs Harry Shay S A Komarov H Splet and Samuel S Tels in a recent issue of *Science*.

The alkyl sulfates act on stomach issue to cause it to secrete mucus. A constantly renewed layer of mucus it is now believed is the chief protection of the stomach lining against the destructive action of gastric juice which leads to ulcer formation.

ANTI TUBERCULOSIS DRUG

Australia is watching closely experiments in the United States with a new drug which is believed there to offer the most hopeful prospects for combating tuberculosis. A series of reports on producing the drug and methods of using it have been received by the Federal Government. A final report on the effects of the drug is shortly expected.

RADAR—HOPE OF BLINDMEN

In the hope that some way may be found of using Radar to help blind people a research unit is to be set up by St Dunstan's says a London paper.

An anonymous donor has provided funds for five years' work.

FATIGUE OR LAZINESS

If you get that tired feeling at the end of the day, it's not fatigue at all. It is sheer laziness. But if you wake up in the morning feeling fagged you can lay it to fatigue.

This is the view of Dr T C Barnes physiologist of Hahenmann Medical College Philadelphia.

Dr Barnes who is a brainwave measuremen expert tested medical students with his electro encephalograph to check the rate of brain fatigue. At the end of a tough eight hour working day the brain wave machine recorded only slight evidence of actual weariness but plenty of proof of ordinary human laziness.

He says. Within the limits imposed by physiological factors—the way we breathe what we eat the sugar content of our blood—it can thus be said scientifically that the human will is a free physical and psychic force. We are our own atomic energizers.

MALNUTRITION IN INDIA

At least 33 per cent of the people of India do not get enough to eat declared Mr Mahommed Afzal Hussain of the Punjab Government at the Empire Scientific Conference. Too much stress was laid on calories which gave an incorrect picture of the requirements of nutrition Mr Hussain said.

In India people suffered as much from lack of protein foods as from the actual lack of calories and in parts of the country where density of population was high and availability of protein foods low the stature of human beings was going down Mr Hussain declared. If that continued there might be a tremendous death rate all at once India had been short of food for the last two years and that shortage was likely to continue unless research developed along the right lines.

Speakers at the conference agreed on the need for urgent methods in tackling the problem of malnutrition in the Empire and for closer co operation between agriculture and medicine.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD BANK

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development commenced functioning on June 25, 1946 and in accordance with the articles of agreement, India was called upon to pay 2 per cent. of her share subscription, *ie*, 8 million dollars, on or before August 24, and a further 8 per cent by November 25, 1946, says a Press Note. The Legislative Assembly had, during its last session, recommended that the Government of India should not pay any portion of India's subscription without consultation with the Bretton Wood Committee of the Assembly. A meeting of this body was therefore, called to consider the action to be taken on the demand made and the Committee agreed to authorise Government to pay the 2 per cent. which is immediately to be paid. As regards the remaining 8 per cent the Committee recommended that the sanction of the Legislature itself should be obtained.

Payment of 3 million dollars (less 40,000 dollars already paid) will accordingly shortly be authorised.

WAR TIME BANKING IN INDIA

In his address at the twelfth annual general body meeting of the Reserve Bank of India held on August 5, at the Gokhale Hall, Madras, Sir C. D. Deshmukh referred to the slowing down of the increase in the note issue but pointed out that the inflationary potential is nursed by the post-war increase in India's sterling balances. In relation to current trends on foreign trade, he advocated a relaxation of import controls on the score that an export surplus nourishes the inflation psychology.

In his review of banking progress, the Governor drew attention to the need for consolidation after the rapid increase in the resources of Indian banks. He admitted that control of banking is demanded by the revelation of several defects in the working of banks.

ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAYS

The Power and Fuel Sub-Committee appointed by the National Planning Committee has recommended electrification of railways in India as far as possible with a view to achieve greater efficiency and conserve the country's limited coal resources. The creation of an Electrical Power Board and a Coal Board, both to work in close co-operation, is also suggested by the Committee as practical measures of exploring the possibilities of power development in India.

The Electrical Power Board would plan for the maximum utilisation of power developed and will also deal with questions relating to research in electricity. The Sub-Committee has further proposed that an all-India body should be set up for surveying hydro-electric power resources both in British India and the States. This body will work in close co-operation with the National Water Resources Commission. The Committee has proposed the formation of electricity utility control committees, both at the Centre and in the provinces to exercise rigid control over electric supply companies.

LINKING SIND WITH BOMBAY

Definite shape is being given to the proposed project for a direct railway line from Sind to Bombay.

The project will cost Rs. 8 crores and the construction work is expected to begin in April 1947.

It is proposed to use Diesel oil engines on this line as most of it will run through the Desert of Cutch.

A big workshop will be opened at Hyderabad—where the American authorities set up a wagon assemblage plan during the war—and a labour colony will be established at Dadim.

The project, when completed, will reduce the distance of 999 miles between Karachi and Bombay to about 600 miles, and the journey which at present takes 50 hours will be performed within 24 hours.

ROLE OF ART IN LIFE

Delivering the inaugural address of the Fine Arts Section of the Loyola College, Madras Rev Fr Jerome D Souza presiding, Mr D P Roy Chowdhry Principal, Government School of Arts and Crafts observed that an understanding of the beautiful, of whatever form it might be, tended to raise one's mental equipment to a higher status and to bring a joyful peace to the mind.

Rev Fr Jerome D Souza in the course of his introductory remarks referred to the association of art with beauty and to the ancient Greek philosopher's dictum that the finest beauty was only a reflection of Truth.

Mr Roy Chowdhry said that the beautiful revealed itself in exuberance in every place where there was harmony. He said that mental relief through diversion was essential. After emphasising the need for distinguishing the 'vulgar' from the beautiful he said that the most desirable thing was to cultivate their aesthetic taste by establishing a personal contact with their learning. He said that a closer association with the language of art would help them to understand the concealed grandeur of harmony, rhythm and other relative values.

STRIKE OF A I R ARTISTES

There was a complete dislocation in the programme of the Calcutta centre of the All India Radio at Garstin Place (Sunday 11th August) when members of the Bengal Artistes' Association including some of those on the permanent staff of the broadcasting department boycotted the station.

Boycott was resorted to in view of 'the outrageous treatment meted out to peaceful girl picketers on the day of the general strike in Calcutta'.

The strike was however called off by the Artistes Association Bengal from the 15th morning following an agreement being reached between the Association and the Deputy Director General All India Radio, Mr N A S Lakshmanan.

GANDHI ON HORSE RACING

The view that a popular Government should put an end to racing if it is within their competence is expressed by Mahatma Gandhi writing under the caption "Horse Racing" in *Harijan*. He says:

'I have written before regarding the ruination of men and money through horse racing but a very strongly worded letter from a friend who says that gambling on the race course is not a lesser evil than the drink habit, constrains me to write again on this subject. The writer further says: "Special trains are run for the races and are full of people who wear Gandhi caps call themselves Congressmen and go there only to waste their money. We now have popular ministries, but they too are silent and put up with the evil."

Although in my opinion gambling at races is not as great an evil as drinking of alcohol one ought not really to draw comparisons. I do not know all the intricacies of horse racing. All I can say is that if it is within the competence of a popular Government to put an end to the evil it should certainly do so.

FIVE TEST MATCHES IN AUSTRALIA

The Board accepted the invitation of the Australian Cricket Control Board to send out a team to Australia next cold weather. The Board will ask for five Test matches to be played in Australia and as regards the financial arrangements it was expected it would be on the same basis as between Australia and England.

L Amarnath who is now in England with the Indian team was granted permission to accept the offer of Burnley, one of the teams in the Lancashire League to play for them next season provided he was available whenever India needed him. It will be recalled that Amarnath had played in the Lancashire League cricket before the war along with late Amar Singh.

JET PLANE RECORD

London test pilot Philip Stanbury on July 24 flew a 'Meteor' jet fighter nine miles high—a record altitude for a jet plane.

ATOMIC SECRECY

Sitting behind locked doors at the Jesus College, Oxford, fifty Atomic Energy scientists from many countries including India, have been deliberating on problems concerning the use of Atomic energy. It is learnt that this conference—Atomic Scientists' Association Conference—voiced strong criticisms of moves in any country to enforce secrecy about Atomic energy.

The scientists say the MacMahon Bill in the United States and the Atomic Energy Bill in Britain establish Government monopoly for all raw materials and development work. Both bills restrict the publication of information even if it is work of private research. Although the American bill was defeated largely by pressure of public opinion rallied by scientists, the British bill still stands.

The failure to agree on international control of Atomic energy is, the scientists say, disappointing but they are of opinion that it is still possible to bridge the gap between the American and Russian proposals.

RAMAN'S RESEARCHES ON DIAMOND

The latest results of the investigations into the diamond and its fascinating properties which also have been the subject of extensive researches by Sir C. V. Raman and his collaborators at Bangalore during recent years find publication in a volume of original papers, just issued by the Indian Academy of Sciences. Twentyone separate researches are reported in the volume.

FLIGHT TO THE MOON

Prof. R. L. Framsworth, president of the United States Rocket Society, prophesies that men may be flying to the moon in two years. He bases his prediction on army reports that experiments to power airplanes with atomic energy have established that this is practicable. Atomic power will, he says, be the means of getting speeds of seven miles per second which are necessary to overcome the earth's gravitation pull.

ORIENT MOVIE TONE CORPORATION

Yet another film producing concern with one crore capital has come into existence in Calcutta. Khan Bahadur G. A. Dossani of Dossani Film Corporation is the chief of this new concern, entitled Orient Movietone Corporation Ltd. There are among the directors well known film people like Mr. M. D. Chatterji of M. P. Productions, Mr. F. A. Dossani, Mr. S. R. Hammed of Empire Talkie Distributors, Mr. Dip Chand Kankaria of De-Luxe Film Distributors and Mr. Isphani of the famous Isphani's of Calcutta.

Of special interest is the fact that for the first time H. H. the Aga Khan has bought shares worth Rs. 25,000 of this concern. At the moment, the report adds, they have issued shares for Rs. 50 lakhs.

KANNADA MYTHOLOGICAL PICTURE

The shooting of Mahatma Pictures' Kannada mythological, *Krishna Leela*, is fast progressing in the Navajyothi Studios, Mysore. Mr. C. V. Raju is directing the picture.

Most of the outdoor scenes have already been shot. As many as a dozen songs have also been recorded.

The cast includes Kemparaj, M. G. Mari Kao, Raghavendra Rao, M. S. Madhu, Miss Jayamma, Sangit Vidushi Nagarathnamma, Ratnamala and others.

SHAH JEHAN

Director Kardar's *Shah Jehan* is ready and awaiting release.

Some of the League leaders including Nawab of Mamdot, Nawab Ismail Khan, and others who had gone to attend the session of the League council attended a special preview of *Shah Jehan* and are reported to have appreciated it much and congratulated Kardar after the show.

TAMIL PICTURES

Mr. Meyappa Chettiar is making a Tamil version of Prakash's *Ram Rajya* in his studio at Karaikudi. He has also purchased the rights of Prabhat's popular mythological, *Opalakrishna*, to make it into Tamil.

INDIA TO SELL MOTOR VEHICLES TO SIAM

Negotiations regarding the sale of motor vehicles to Siam are, it is understood, expected to begin shortly. Recently Siam purchased five new and 25 second hand metre gauge locomotives and 675 wagons from the Government of India.

The Government of India cannot give a definite answer to the Siamese request for motor vehicles in view of the short supply of vehicles and spare parts. They have, however, quoted prices of 15 cwt trucks and three ton lorries. These are new shop soiled three ton lorries—Rs 6815 each, 15 cwt trucks—Rs 6000 each used three ton lorries—Rs 5100 each and 15 cwt trucks—Rs 4500 each.

NATURAL RUBBER TYRES

All motor tyres made in Britain will be constructed with natural instead of synthetic rubber in twelve months' time. This was stated in London by Mr H L Kenward, president at the Tyre Manufacturers' Conference. Mr Kenward thinks that for tyre making natural rubber is still to be preferred to synthetic. A major drawback with synthetic rubber is its lack of resistance to heat. Heat caused by friction is one of the chief factors causing tyre to wear out.

PUNCTURABLE MOTOR TYRES

The existence of a revolutionary new type of tyre was revealed by Mr H L Kenward, President of the Tyre Manufacturers' Conference.

Developed for armoured vehicles during the war, this tyre has no inner tube and so cannot be punctured in the ordinary way. On test these tyres covered the amazing distance of 14500 miles without failure and were calculated to have a potential life of up to 30000 miles.

PHONE IN THE CAR

By autumn a two way telephone service for motor cars will be operating in New York. Motorists on the road will be able to telephone anywhere and anyone will be able to telephone them—by radio.

BANGALORE AIRCRAFT FACTORY

The conversion of the Hindustan Aircraft Company at Bangalore into a civil factory for the manufacture of aircraft which has been sanctioned by the Standing Finance Committee constitutes one of the main items of the Government's present scheme of industrial expansion. The Indian Aircraft Mission which came to India in 1946 had made its recommendations regarding the technical aspects of the establishment of an aircraft industry in India. The recommendations were accepted by the Government, who have undertaken the present scheme. The total expenditure involved in the entire Hindustan Air Factory scheme will be recurring Rs 87,03,000 and non recurring Rs 23,80,000.

The construction of an ammonium sulphate factory at Sindhri, Bihar, which has also been sanctioned, is another major Government undertaking on which commitments so far entered into amount to Rs 407 crores. The factory is intended to produce 335,000 tons of ammonium sulphate per annum. The total estimated cost of this project exceeds Rs 10 crores.

A scheme is also under consideration for erecting a coke plant even suitable for cooking second class coal. This, if successful, will result in economising first-class coal from which metallurgical coke is manufactured.

INTERNATIONAL AIR AGREEMENT

The United States acknowledged its failure to obtain an international aviation agreement by multilateral action and announced that it would seek agreements with individual countries. The State Department said the United States had decided to withdraw from the International Air Transport Agreement signed in Chicago in 1944 providing for multilateral approach.

The Department said that the recent Aviation Conference made clear that that agreement could not be relied upon as an effective medium for the establishment of international air routes for operation by the companies of the United States.

DALMIAS ACQUIRE NEW CONCERNS

Acquisition of eight large Indian Industrial concerns including Indian National Airways and the Dhrangadhara Works by the Dalmia interests in a deal involving "more than a crore of rupees" has been announced.

In detailing the transactions, Mr. R. K. Jain, son-in-law of Seth Ramakrishna Dalmia, said that although all the companies would retain their present corporate identity, Dalmia resources and experience would be thrown into an expansion of each.

In the case of Indian National Airways—the nation's oldest commercial airline—this hopefully means, he said, extensions of flight service to every Provincial capital, into Assam, and eventually to overseas points.

Other firms in which Mr. Dalmia has taken controlling interest are Govan Brothers (Shipping, insurance and travel agency, with branches in many cities of India); The Delhi Flour Mills of New Delhi and the Rampur Sugar Company, Raza Sugar Company Limited, the Rampur Maize Mills and Rampur Engineering Company, all of Rampur State.

The Dalmia interests recently acquired control of the *Times of India* in Bombay and are known to be interested in the establishment of a combined newspaper and magazine and book publishing plant elsewhere in India.

INDUSTRIES MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

The Industries Ministers' Conference convened by Mr. V. Mehta, Finance and Village Industries Minister, Bombay, and presided over by Mr. N. Kanugo, Minister for Industries, Orissa, concluded at Poona on August 1. The Conference set forth the view that the plans for economic development in the country should centre round the farmer and agriculture, and should have the object of providing a balanced diet, adequate clothing and other articles of primary need to every citizen in the country.

ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARI

Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai, - the Revenue Minister, moved in a tense atmosphere the Government Resolution on the abolition of Zamindari in U. P. in the Legislative Assembly on July 19.

The resolution said: 'This Assembly accepts the principle of the abolition of zamindari system in this province which involves that the rights of such intermediaries should be acquired on payment of equitable compensation' and that, the Government should appoint a committee to prepare a scheme for this purpose.'

Mr. Kidwai declared that the Government had brought forward this resolution not in a spirit of vindictiveness but in compliance with the wishes of the people whose representatives they were. He said that the principal object of the resolution was to save tenants from 'oppression and suppression' so that they could flourish.

RELIEF TO ZAMIN RYOTS IN MADRAS

Speaking on the Land Revenue Demand, in the Madras Legislative Assembly on August 13, Mr. T. Prakasam, Prime Minister, declared that the Government proposed to bring in immediately after the Budget session a Bill to give immediate relief to tenants in zamindari areas and to protect the long-established rights of the tenants in the matter of use of forests, grazing, etc.

Mr. K. R. Karanth, Revenue Minister, who moved the demand, elaborated on land revenue policy of the Government and the contemplated reform. Referring to the appointment of a Cabinet Committee for the revision of salaries of the subordinate services, he said that Government were not unmindful of the difficulties of the low-paid Government servants in view of the enormous rise in the cost of living. The Government would see to it that their just grievances were redressed as soon as possible. He asked these services not to indulge in threats of strike.

CONGRESSMEN AND LABOUR

The Congress Working Committee passed a resolution recommending to Congressmen to utilise the Hindustan Mazdoor Sevak Sangh for the service of the working class.

The resolution says 'Whereas the Congress has to play an increasingly active role in helping the working class to organise itself on sound and healthy lines to achieve its rightful place in industry and society and to make progressive contribution towards raising the economic and social standards in this country the Committee have come to the conclusion that a central agency should be provided to encourage support and co-ordinate the efforts and activities of Congressmen in the field of labour organisation and service of the working class. The Committee note with satisfaction that the Hindustan Mazdoor Sevak Sangh has been functioning in this field for a number of years and has built up a policy tradition and machinery well calculated to advance and fulfil the aims which the Congress has in view in relation to labour.

'In order to give effect to the above resolution a Committee consisting of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda and Mr. P. H. Patwardhan will be appointed to confer with the Hindustan Mazdoor Sevak Sangh and report to the Working Committee.

WORKING CONDITIONS IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The Government have decided to set up a Court of Enquiry to investigate the conditions of workers in the textile industry. The Press Note on the subject says:

In 1937-38 the Government of Madras appointed a Court of Enquiry to report on the conditions of working in the textile industry. It has now been found that the working conditions have changed rapidly during the war and these changes necessitate a comprehensive inquiry into these matters. Government call upon the employers and workers organisations to render all possible help and co-operate with the Court to deal with matters expeditiously and submit its report.

SHAW'S VIEWS ON MODERN AGE

Bernard Shaw, the famous Irish playwright, expresses his latest views on old age and the world panorama to day in a newly written postscript to his work 'Back to Methuselah'.

On his old age Shaw says 'I am failing, my senses my locomotive powers and my memory are decaying at a rate which threatens to make a Struldbrug—a character in Gulliver's Travels—of me if I persist in living. Yet my mind still feels capable of growth for my curiosity is keener than ever.

His assessment of the world to day quoted from the same source, is 'In the 19th Century we reacted from feudalism into a world in which the love of money is the root of all good and the freedom of contact and thought man's choicest treasure and now we are reacting into either a Marxist world in which the millennium will be guaranteed by a new catholicism in which the proletarians of all lands are to unite or an idolatry of imaginary Carlylean heroes and bogus Nietzschean superman. But we have no sages old enough and wise enough to make a synthesis of these reactions and to develop the magnetic awe inspiring force which must replace the policeman's baton as the instrument of authority.'

DELHI'S HOUSING PLAN

The Government of India, says a Delhi report, have decided to construct 2,000 family quarters for their clerical establishment. The plans are expected to be ready by October and construction should be over by the end of 1947.

This decision has been taken in spite of the uncertainty about the future of Delhi since it cannot be said whether it will remain the headquarters of the Union Government.

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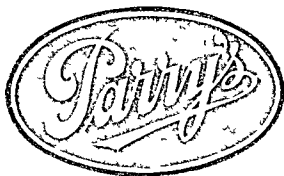
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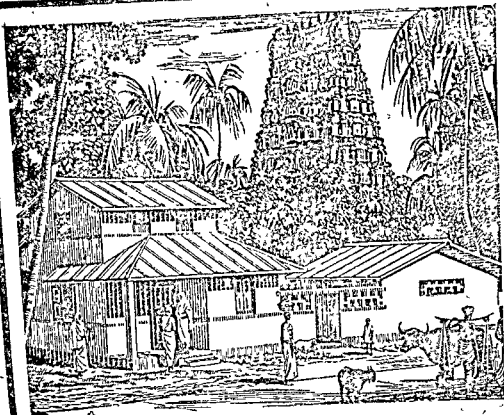
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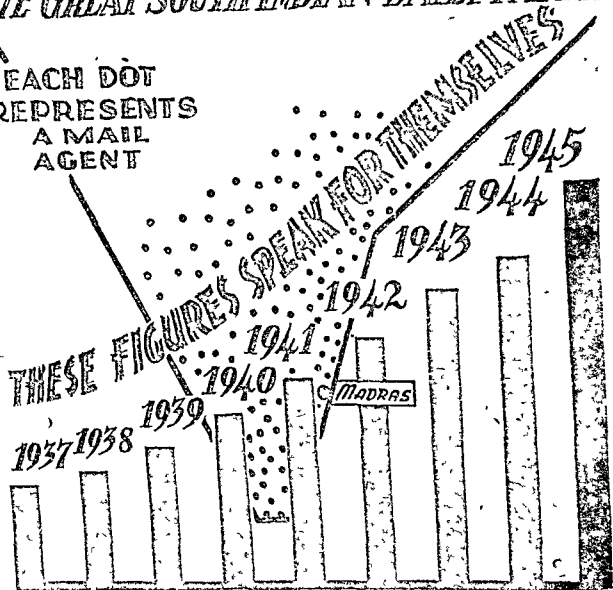
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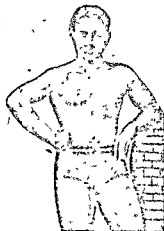
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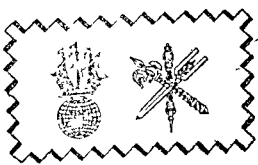
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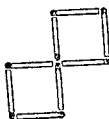
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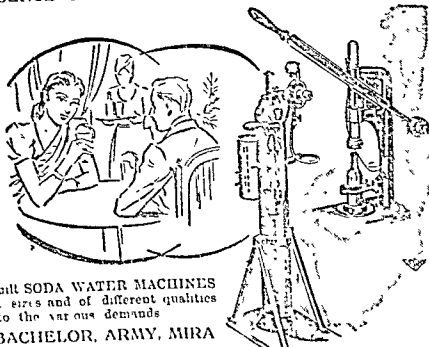
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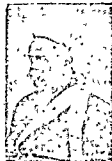
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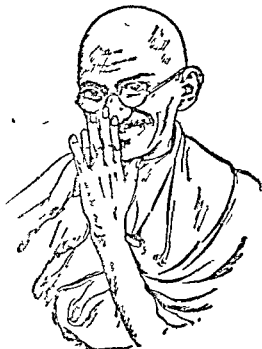
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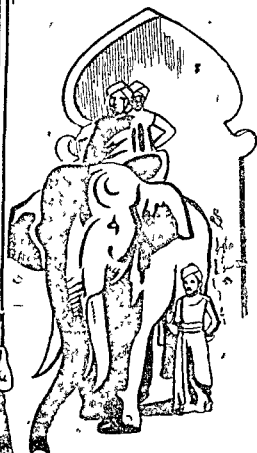
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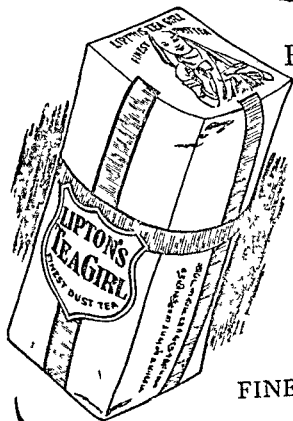
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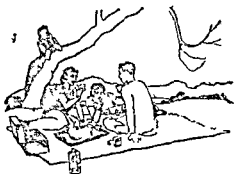


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[No. 10.]

Lord Macaulay's Legislative Minutes

THE HONBLE MR JUSTICE P V RAJAMANNAR

EITHER as a politician or as a statesman or as a historian Macaulay provokes hostile criticism. No doubt he had remarkable gifts. His memory was prodigious, his knowledge of the classics was very wide and his industry was amazing. His private life was unimpeachable and his public career was completely free from the taint of corruption or dishonesty. Nevertheless he suffered from considerable limitations of equipment and of approach. All philosophical speculation was alien to his mind. He failed to recognise how greatly the progress of humanity had been influenced by such speculation. Of Art he confessed himself ignorant and of the marvellous discoveries of Science he took practically no note. Whether he was addressing the House of Commons or putting up minutes for the Governor General, his expression was always provoking. There was an overweening confidence about his tone. His trenchant phrases were always challenging. He revelled in categorical affirmations and unqualified propositions. He never had doubts and astonishingly he had least doubt about things of which he knew practically nothing. The best example of such audacious self complacency is his ridicule of the ancient literature of India of which he knew next to nothing. This aspect of Macaulay is

best expressed in the words attributed to Lord Melbourne. I wish I were as cocksure of any one thing as Macaulay is of everything.

Macaulay had also his limitations for his task in India. Though he became one of the Commissioners of the Board of Control in 1882 and applied himself to the study of Indian affairs he had very little knowledge at first hand of the Indian administration or of the Indian people. His appointment to the new Supreme Council created by the Charter Act of 1833 occurred at a period of transition when the government of India by the Company was being slowly superseded by the government of the Crown. His position in the Council was to some extent anomalous. He was on sufferance in the executive branch of the Government and could not influence its decision by his vote.

Macaulay, however, did his best. Any impartial critic will endorse the words of his biographer that his career as the first Law Member of the Supreme Council of India formed the most honourable chapter of his life. Macaulay belonged to the Whig party and in Indian affairs followed the splendid tradition of Bute. He was a great admirer of the principles of Bentham. He therefore applied the sound liberal

principles which he had imbibed to a government which till then had been "jealous, close and repressive" In his own way, he vindicated the liberty of the press and maintained the equality of Europeans and Indians before the law He worked out the new technique of law making and strove to put into practice the great principle of legislation that the meaning of the laws must be clear and precise

The Legislative Minutes of Macaulay when he was Law Member furnish the most authentic material for an unprejudiced study of his work Unfortunately however they were, at least most of them inaccessible The 35 minutes collected in the volume under review* have never been published before and have now been made public with the permission of the Legislative Department of the Government of India and is based directly on the legislative records preserved in the India Office They have been arranged according to the subject of discussion, such as the new technique of law making the freedom of the press, the Black Act the Reform of mofussil Courts and the Reform of Judicial Procedure etc They are introduced to us by Mr Dharker in an excellent prefatory essay He describes the historical background leading up to the Charter Act of 1833 and in successive chapters he gives as it were the key to the Minutes which follow He writes with restraint and accuracy and is very fair in his comments

If he had great opportunities Macaulay had many difficulties He had to face the opposition of a small but influential

community of English residents in the country with vested interests, and false ideas of superiority All credit goes to him for the bold stand he took on the question of equality of Englishmen and Indians in the eye of the law He did not spare those Englishmen who wanted to perpetuate a new privileged caste In his minute of 28th March 1836, dealing with the proposed "Black Act" he writes thus

'The political phraseology of the English in India is the same with the political phraseology of our countrymen at home but it is never to be forgotten that the same words stand for very different things at London and at Calcutta We hear so much about public opinion the love of liberty, the influence of the press But we must remember that public opinion means the opinion of five hundred persons who have no interest feeling or taste in common with the fifty millions among whom they live, that the love of liberty means the strong objection which the five hundred feel to every measure which can prevent them from acting as they choose towards the fifty millions, that the press is altogether supported by the five hundred, and has no motive to plead the cause of the fifty millions'

Beside their historical value, these minutes have a literary value Whether he is in fashion or out of it at the present day, Macaulay was certainly one of the masters of English prose and generally the minutes compare very well with the more finished essays

Some of the problems which faced Macaulay do not exist now But certain

* Lord Macaulay's Legislative Minutes Selected with a Historical Introduction by C D Dharker Oxford University Press. Rs. 12

principles of universal application which he enunciated in these minutes are not without significance and application even to day. The following comments found in his minutes of 10th July 1837 forcibly bring out the defects of combining a duality of functions in one office.

The division of official labour in India is at present exceedingly defective. It ought to be one of our chief objects to correct this great vice of the existing system. By giving to a Superintendent of Police any control over the Courts of Justice we should I conceive render the system more objectionable than it is now. I cannot perceive the smallest connexion between the duties of a Superintendent of Police and those of a functionary employed to watch over the administration of justice. The talents, the turn of mind, the knowledge, the experience which the situations require are altogether different.

The objection to the plan of uniting in one person offices which require very different qualifications are obvious. It is all but certain that such a person will perform some of his duties ill. It is highly probable that he will perform them all ill. If it be meant that the Superintendent of Police should exercise any control whatever over the Courts which administer justice in criminal cases my objections to the plan would be very much stronger. But to give such a functionary control over the criminal Courts would be to invert the relation in which the tribunals and the police ought to stand to each other. The Superintendent of Police will in

criminal cases be in some sense a party. It is evidently his interest that the prisoners who are by his instrumentality brought before the Courts of Justice should be convicted. There are therefore the same objections to putting the criminal courts under his control which there would be to putting the Court of King's Bench under the control of the Attorney General or the Court of Exchequer under the control of the Commissioners of Excise.

It is needless to say that these observations are very topical when the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive is under contemplation by the various Provincial Governments in India.

Macaulay's remarks in 1836 on the subject of local taxation are valid even today. The Government of Bombay wanted to pass an Act to tax the people of the town of Karia to raise funds to repair the walls of that town. The inhabitants were against such taxation. Macaulay supported them. On 16.1.1836 he wrote: "I cannot give my consent to this Regulation. It is diametrically opposed to a principle which I hope we shall always bear in mind. That principle is this: that the people of a place are better judges than the government can be whether it is worth their while to submit to a local tax for a purely local object."

The legislators of all time should bear in mind what Macaulay said over a century ago in his minute of 11th of May 1835—

I am firmly convinced that the style of laws is of scarcely less importance than their substance. When we are laying down the rules according to which

millions are, at their peril, to shape their actions, we are surely bound to put those rules into such a form that shall not require any painful effort of attention or any extraordinary quickness of intellect to comprehend them. Why it has been so much the fashion in various parts of the world to darken by gibberish by tautology, by circumlocution, that meaning which ought to be as transparent as words can make it, is a question which I will not here discuss.

It is easy to judge Macaulay harshly. One must realise, however, that he might have done more or at least tried to do more for the people of this country but for a mighty obstacle in his way. The following words of his are almost tragic

"What is the great difficulty which meets us whenever we meditate any extensive reform in India? It is this — that there is no helping men who will not help themselves. The phenomenon which strikes an observer lately arrived from England with the greatest surprise and which more than any other damps his hope of being able to serve the people of this country, is their own apathy, their own passiveness under wrong. He comes from a land in which the spirit of the meanest rises up against the insolence or injustice of the richest and the most powerful. He finds himself in a land where the patience of the oppressed invites the oppressor to repeat his injuries."

BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

BY M. RUTHNASWAMY

(Vice-chancellor, Annamalai University)

I HAVE taken the liberty of putting a narrower interpretation on the title of this article than the Editor had in his mind when he asked me to contribute to this series. I take it to mean books that have influenced my mind. For books that have influenced the making of my character and moral being would take me into regions into which the majority of the readers of the *Indian Review* would not be willing or interested enough to follow me.

It was not till I reached the High School classes in St. Joseph's College (as it then was) at Cuddalore that I began to choose books myself. Till then the usual children's books, Grimm's *Fairy Tales* and Hans Christian Anderson's *Tales* had been thrown

in my way and had stored my childhood's imagination with the scenes and heroes and heroines of *Fairy Land*. *Swiss Family Robinson* was a book I delighted in reading even at meal time to the mild surprise of the Refectory supervisors. Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* was another introduction to tales of travellers which have always been a favourable form of light reading. It was when I was in the V or VI form that I came across in the Boarding House Library of St. Joseph's College an American book called '*A Gentleman*' by Maurice Francis Egan, an essayist and critic of some repute who became U. S. A. Minister at the Hague about the time of the first World War. This book which was in the main a handbook

of etiquette drove home the view that in the making of a gentleman intellectual tastes are an integral factor. To form the literary taste of a gentleman he could recommend no better book than Newman's *Idea of a University*. I do not know whether I had spoken about it to my father but it was a joyful surprise to me when on my birthday, in August 1902 when I was in the Junior F A Class, I received it as a present. Since then it has always been with me. I began reading it when I could not have understood all that I read and I read it again now when I want to fortify myself against the jazz of modern prose.

Another landmark in my life as a student was the reading of Lord Acton's *Inaugural Lecture on Modern History*. All my guidance in historical and political reading has come from Lord Acton and the later collections of his historical and political studies. In England I obtained the list of One Hundred Best Books which he had drawn up at the invitation of Sir John Lubbock the first compiler of these lists of One Hundred Best Books which used to be fashionable with literary lions in England early this century. It was Lord Acton who sent me to Burke as 'the master of those that know in politics'. I have read and reread his *Correspondence* and his *Speeches and Writings* the chief of them being the *Speeches on American Thoughts on the Present Discontents* the *Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs*, the Bristol Speeches the *French Revolution*. Burke has been my master but not my dictator in politics. Through Acton also I came to know and to read in parts that great work of German learning Gierke's *Genossenschaftsrecht*. I have not been able

to read it in full—it would require a lifetime to read those four bulky volumes of about 500 pages each. But I have read enough to learn the lesson that Gierke was striving to drive home with characteristic German *gründlichkeit* that the State is not the cock of the walk in the political field, that Corporations, ecclesiastical, especially the Church and lay, have a right to live their own autonomous, free life without leave of the State asked or taken. This was also the lesson learnt from the works of another great historical scholar F W Maitland who although Downing Professor of the Laws of England, was called by Acton the greatest English historian of his time.

Through Acton also I was introduced to another great German writer, Constantine Frantz from whose *Naturlehre des Staats* I learnt to establish my political creed on the foundations of Nature and Necessity and raise the structure in the spirit of Freedom. Nature and Freedom—things as they are and things as they ought to be—are the twin guides of all sound political thought and action. Freedom not built on the facts and circumstances of a people's life is bound to be unstable and political life dominated by the facts of life is bound to stick fast in the ancient ways. Also it was Frantz the great opponent in the years 1855-1875 of the political unitarian Bismarck the founder of German unity with blood and iron and who taught long before federation became the fashion that that was the way of political salvation of Germany and Central Europe that confirmed my federal faith. That faith I had imbibed in my undergraduate days at Cambridge, again on

the advice of Acton—from the *Federalist* composed by Hamilton Madison and Jay three of the great founders of the Constitution of the U S A The *Federalist* is the Bible of all good Federalists

Not to Acton but to a chance reading of an English translation of Friederich Wilhelm Foersters *Sexualethik und Sexualpädagogik* I read one after the other the works of this great teacher and educationalist. His educational works on the making of character in school and in the home have largely influenced my views on education And his *Politische Ethik und Pädagogik* was a revelation to me with its insistence on the making of individual and social character as the best means of education in citizenship He denounced the method of pumping of so much political information into the minds of immature children so popular with the makers of our school courses and syllabuses in civics and so well calculated to kill all enthusiasm for citizenship and defeat all attempts at the making of good citizens It is a pity that only a few of Foerster's works have been translated into English, but those that have been *Lebenskunde* (by the Moral Education League, London) Youth and Sexual morality translated by Meyrick Booth ought to be found in every teacher's library

These are all books of knowledge Of books of power, Shakespeare's plays I have tried to read at the rate of one a year I prefer Dickens to Thackeray Of Walter Scott I have read a dozen Poetry I keep in touch through Palgrave's *Golden Treasury* if only to save myself from the dismal fate of Darwin who confessed with tears in his words that the monopoly of

Science had killed in him all appreciation of poetry Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the looking glass* are a constant companion—I pack my troubles with them in my little kit bag and they seem the lighter for this literary load I have mouthed whole pages and chapters of Macaulay's *History of England* and Gibbons *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*—to learn from them the art of historical narrative—of writing books of history that will be read To the "authorised version" I have often gone for its "well of English undefined"

Following Bacon's advice that reading makes a full man, I have attempted to correct the literary bias of my main reading with a study of some books on science Acton's list gave me Darwin's *Origin of Species* and De Candolle's *Histoire des sciences naturelles* That Darwin's theory of evolution was not, as he stated it, materialistic I learnt from the reading of this scientific classic but I had also learnt from the work of a Canadian Catholic writer Zahm that Evolution is compatible with Theism And that development is the law of the being of every fruitful idea or institution I had already learnt from Newman's *Development of Christian Doctrine* which as a matter of fact had preceded Darwin's *Origin of Species* by some years and which had taught that 'here on earth to live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often' De Candolle acquainted me with the fact that of all beings which live a social life man is the most aggressive, more aggressive for instance than the bee or the ant, that the formation of classes is peculiar

to the human species, a truth which the Bolshevik experiment has not been able to disprove, and that the classless society is an Utopian dream, that human progress is slow, for the human species changes less slowly but more decisively than the animal or the vegetable and that an exaggerated idea of the heredity of physical and intellectual qualities is the product of superficial observation in all ages. Alex Carrel's *Man the Unknown*, is a recent scientific classic

that has taught me the truth that our knowledge of man has not kept pace with our knowledge of nature, and that man's control over himself is not commensurate with his control over nature.

These are the chief of the books that have influenced the course of my intellectual life. More than the ideas they have given me I owe to them the making of a compass and a chart that have guided me in the 'churned ocean' of modern literature.

BY MR B SANJEEVA RAO.

(O)

BOOKS are our gurus. It is through literature that we wake up to the meaning of the world around us, to the sadness as well as the beauty of life, its tragedy and its epic grandeur. Books constitute one of the most potent means of discovering the secret wealth of aspiration and longing that constitutes the unique thing which we call our personality. They are therefore a valuable aid to the process of self-discovery and self-knowledge. Every book reveals in ourselves unsuspected depths of feeling, of sympathy and also of antipathy, of insight and understanding, of capacity for heroism and self-sacrifice, of love for beauty, but also much ugliness, cruelty, jealousy, lust. Reading intelligently can become a mode of attaining a supreme self-awareness.

There are two ways in which a book may be read—one conscious and the other the sub-conscious. This conscious study of books is not necessarily the most important or the most significant method of reading. Conscious thought is different from life and arises from the breaking up by the

mind of the integrity of our being. The apprehension by the sub-conscious of the content of a book which is something more than what is actually said and includes a great deal which is merely suggested, is a more complete way of reading.

I discovered as a boy that reading a book which was above my intellectual reach was quite often a rare spiritual experience. It was in some such fashion that I read a volume of Newman's sermons. I was transported to the Church of St Mary in Oxford, joined invisibly the congregation which listened to the music of Newman's sermons or rather the outpourings in the most exquisite prose of a passionately sincere soul striving to reconcile the intuitions of a profound mind with the conclusions of an irrefragable logic. I was quite ignorant of Newman's theological difficulties, or of the controversies of the Tractarian Movement. But Newman created within myself by the magic of his wonderful gift of expression the capacity to appreciate the soul of the Catholic Church, its mysticism, the

tender yet stern discipline of its organisation the marvellous appeal of its music the splendour of its ritual and above all its compelling call for a complete sacrifice of the personal will to the Will of God

George Eliot introduced me to and made me familiar with the two great conflicting trends of thought and feeling the rational and the mystical desire for fulness of life and the ideal of the ascetic symbolised by the Renaissance and the monasticism of the Middle Ages Florence became to me a living city recreated by the genius of George Eliot Savonarola the Duomo and the Campanile the Frescoes of Fra Angelico Medieval mysticism and medieval art became living forces the two poles of human aspiration and thought between which the human spirit has continuously swung through the ages

The Fioretti of St Francis showed me another side of Christianity, its passionate pity and tenderness for the poor, its glad willingness to bear the burden of human sorrow These books stand out in my memory as marking the first early steps in my great adventure in understanding I was convinced of one thing that man is urged by one single and simple desire to know, to know the world and ultimately to know himself and to live fully in that knowledge Every book every work of art is but the expression of this fundamental urge to find to discover the meaning of life and to transmit that knowledge to others The history of man's amazing adventure is full of errors of tragic failures But every error is significant for it is but a partial or exaggerated truth So the study of man's failures is as important as the

study of his triumphs The study of mystical Christianity, of medieval art and architecture, of humanism brought me a complete understanding of man's struggle towards a fully integrated life in which the claims of the spirit were to be reconciled with the desire for a full life

Later came another revelation from a group of writers Carlyle Ruskin, Emerson and in Poetry—Wordsworth and Tennyson I am afraid my conscious mind did not take in all that these writers said in their books But they supplied the spiritual need of the generation to which I belonged I might not have understood the full significance of Carlyle's Sartor Resartus But I knew although I could not say how or why—that Carlyle had attained a temporary spiritual self-transcendence that this mind had been illumined by a wisdom greater than that of his individual self Emerson was a little more intelligible—but his appeal was to a layer of my being which was beyond and above that of the thinking mind that comes with the easing of that conflict and tension which had been created in my mind by the challenge of Christianity and modern Scientific thought

Ruskin was to me essentially a poet though he used the medium of prose, who saw the principle of beauty in all things He was in those days looked upon as a dreamer of noble dreams an ineffectual angel beating in the void his luminous wings in vain It is easier in these days to appreciate Ruskin when he has been more than justified But half a century ago, one needed to exercise one's intuition to understand him and to realise that he was a constructive genius of the highest order

Wordsworth and Tennyson had their intellectual labels properly attached to them I am glad I did not read the commentaries on their poems I went to them for being cleansed and healed

In the midst of the intellectual struggle created in the minds of our generation by the challenge of Western religious and scientific thought, came the golden eloquence of Annie Besant and Vivekananda proclaiming the greatness, the universality of ancient Indian thought To Annie Besant more than to any other teacher, I owe a debt which no service can ever repay Her speeches and writings opened to me the portals of that ancient path that leads to the sanctuary of Truth To me and to many thousands like me the writings and speeches represented the highest of synthesis of the best in the East and the West in thought and life Vivekananda and Annie Besant are the real creators of New India

Let me not fail to pay my tribute of gratitude to a writer of undoubted spiritual genius, the late Mr B R Rajam Iyer who exercised a very powerful influence in our generation through the pages of *Prabuddha Bharata* Rajam Iyer was a spiritual genius of the highest order But he died very young But I feel sure that there are still many men now living who can remember the extraordinary inspiration of the *Prabuddha Bharata* when Rajam Iyer was its sole editor and contributor

During the next few years I studied much that may have been of academic value, but was of little significance to my quest in my adventure in understanding I pass on to an apparently accidental discovery of a little known book which had an extra

ordinary effect upon my life It was a small book with an unattractive title "the Occult World" by Mr A P Sinnett. I can hardly give any intelligible reason for the remarkable change in outlook, in inner and outer life that the reading of that book brought about I read that book at one sitting in the Cambridge Union Library, I became aware of an instant change, a transformation of the inner personality I knew of a certainty that all my personal ambitions desires for a career died that evening I felt utterly certain that I had contacted a Divine Order, a society of just men made perfect existing eternally in the heart of Reality India was an important Centre in that great order The motherland at once became to me a mystic entity, a symbol of a mighty regenerating force that was being poured out on the world for its salvation When I came to the end of the book I knew that I had taken the resolve to dedicate myself to the supreme task of being an agent, however humble, of that Mighty Power that was sweeping over the world

Yet another book which profoundly influenced me is a classic of Theosophical literature an ancient occult treatise translated by Mabel Collins—known as the *Light on the Path* It contained instructions for all those who were willing to undergo the training and the discipline needed for becoming "a focus" of the Universal life These two books stand out clearly, marking out the new life which was chosen for me, a life of service, of many trials and difficulties They opened to me the gate way to a larger life

During the long period of training and service I became increasingly aware that

books cease to have value when the inner living Teacher takes charge of one's life. Life itself becomes the teacher and every man and woman whom one comes into contact with, every situation and circumstance in life becomes the awakener, the teacher who holds the mirror to one's own inner nature and reveals all that is hidden in the subconscious. The Poet and the Dramatist are said to hold the mirror up to nature. It would be truer to say that they reveal the Divine in Nature, the significance of every individual being, the secret truth implicit in every form, the blade of grass, the song of the bird, the sunset and the evening sky. Spiritual life begins with the perception of this beauty and the mystery of the Divine in things—but that this beauty revealed by the Poet and the artist is also implicit in the heart of man that can be perceived only through the Inner Guide and Teacher.

I pass over many books written by very great and eminent men and women. That they exercised a great influence I will not deny. But I learnt directly from life and not through the medium of books. I was also in contact in living touch with great and inspiring teachers of undoubted spiritual genius and so I have to exclude many books from my list—I learnt very much more from the living teachers than from the records of their utterances.

But one teacher of outstanding eminence who however, is not accessible except through his books, I must not forget to mention, Sri Aurobindo. His essays on the Gita and the Divine Life constitute for me a great spiritual experience. His books have a quality shared by all great literature.

They radiate a subtle spiritual power. If one is sensitive one, begins to be aware that reading is at the same time a realisation that the written word is creative that it gives to the reader not only a clear intellectual understanding, but an insight which enables him to perceive that which he has grasped with his mind. Reading is illumination. But it must be integral, with the whole of one's being. The essays on the Gita and the Divine Life constitute a most remarkable contribution to the study of ancient Indian thought.

I have selected a few out of the many books that I have read which have brought me a great understanding of life and its problems. Behind every book there is a living human soul. Through his book he seeks to give us the meaning of life as he sees it. Therefore every book sincerely written is of infinite value for it is a revelation of one of the myriads of aspects of the Universal Life. Through the humblest writer—provided he is a genuine writer—we contact the Divine. The reading of books is therefore, a real spiritual experience. In all the great crises of life, the Divine Master guides each individual and sends his message through a book, sometimes through a casual utterance of some unconscious agent. Books that influence one's life have therefore, a dual value—one objective that which any careful student can find in it and another an entirely individual and subjective one. It is difficult to distinguish between them often. It is however, unimportant except from the standpoint of the scholar. I do not happen to be a scholar—I go to books as I go to men when I am in need of help, guidance and inspiration. There comes a stage when one can obtain that help from the depths of one's own inner life—'When one is silent help comes' so said the great Goethe and he is right.

(—Broadcast A I R Madras)

THE MAKING OF A TEACHER

BY MR N R KRISHNAMMA MA

THERE is a common saying in circulation that 'A Teacher is born and not made'. I think this is a fallacy, as far as my experience is concerned. Of course an ideal teacher is possibly 'born and not made', but so many of us cannot reach that ultra height of greatness, however much we may try. Somewhere Kipling states as an axiom—Beware of a man who is not liked by children or dogs as denizens of both categories have an inborn intuition of a likeable or unlikeable person. Many a man—not necessarily a parent—is deservedly popular with children who welcome a visit from their adored uncle or cousin or even an in-law. On the way to the nursery this man is usually made welcome by the children's pet—usually a dog.

How then can such a type become a teacher in the real sense of that office? His essential characteristics should emanate from what his pupils demand and respect, rather than entirely from his own educational qualifications and technical training. I am not at all trying to decry that a teacher should not be technically qualified. That must necessarily be his background.

Suppose we go into a class-room of the upper section of a High School. The pupils are agog with excitement, as they are going to have their first lesson say in their English text—from a newly appointed member of the staff. The teacher comes in and is carefully but covertly inspected by the class. They find his manner pleasant and not overbearing and his appearance neat and not 'gauche'. He is active and seems really keen on the impression he makes on them. He has not forgotten his

chalk piece and he sees that all the class, even the back row can see the black board, and understand his writing. He has evidently prepared his work because as the lesson develops he is able to give copious similes and to make difficult words and sentences understandable and produces from his desk visible illustrations—models, pictures, etc. The time honoured veterans of the class try to rag him—A new teacher—and find they are put in their place without effort, and without being 'sent out' of the class, the usual corrective of a weak teacher. Even the detained type of pupil forgets to yawn and watch the clock, thus the first lesson ends.

As the term progresses the pupils still find this teacher keen and appreciative, always in time and with no appearance of having dressed in haste. They try in voluntarily to copy his example, to remember their text books and their pencils and the buttons on their shirts. They find that neat note books are more applauded than untidy ones decried. They realise their own home preparation wins an appreciative nod from this teacher who however does not encourage or tolerate favourites and if I may use the term 'Suckers'.

Thus the teacher, who is trying to make himself develops and finds that his class is progressing not only in their work but in themselves. He feels that his pupils are paying more attention to their own manners, their own appearance, their own attitude to their work and their own love for their institution.

At this stage some of the pupils may try to analyse their own feelings and

wonder why they look forward to this teacher's lessons. They probably begin to realise they are being made to think for themselves, to think of themselves as units of a school, and not merely as automatons to learn by heart what they are fed with. They find their practical knowledge increasing and their language improving. They try to imitate their likeable teacher, in punctuality, in neatness of dress, in common courtesy, such as a 'please' and a 'thank you' and all the many little things which go to form their character.

How has this teacher achieved this? may now be asked, especially when I said at the beginning a teacher is not necessarily 'born' but may be 'made'. My answer is that the teacher has made himself to study his pupils from their angle and not entirely and blindly from his own. He has taken care to see that as far as possible, he has made his work not only understandable but interesting. He has tried all he can to be punctual and courteous, not only in his work, but in his treatment of the class and in his methods of dealing with individuals. He has realised that discipline can be kept without enforcing rigid methods of order, by encouraging the weak, stimulating the good and repressing the unruly by making them understand, they are a nuisance not only to themselves, but to their class and so to their institution.

The teacher's main problem, however is, how to deal with the majority of the class, who belong to the average type and are not in the above categories, which are easy to deal with. The question can be countered by another question 'Why have

so many pupils drifted into this humdrum type?" My answer is they have had no opportunity to stem the current taking them into this stagnant water. The average parent is much more inclined to encourage his children in their books than in their education. A private teacher is easily obtainable to spoon-feed a so-called backward child, with the result that that backward child remains backward, though he may shine in his examinations. He has not been taught to take the trouble to think for himself. All his knowledge has been dinned into his ears, willing or unwilling. Again the average parent does not find the time to 'inspect' his child before he leaves for school, to see whether he has made himself clean and tidy, to check up the time when he has to leave home. He does not initiate many other necessary traits the child has to develop, to lift him out of the rut.

The teacher at school has to contend against the many disadvantages which have pushed the average pupil into the ordinary stereotyped type. This can be done to a large extent by the teacher who tries to set the example by his own manner, his own keenness, his own careful preparation of his work—so designed as to be understood by the average, even dull pupil. The teacher must instil into this type of pupil that he will not accept slipshod work, will not tolerate cooked-up answers, learnt parrot-wise, will not listen to half-baked excuses for say, not having finished the set homework, and all such reasons for inertness, which the pupils have so far been led to believe are legitimate. To do all this requires much tact and more courage than realised.

A man who wishes to take a good photograph of himself, takes care to make his appearance neat and presentable, to have his hair tidy and brushed in the manner most suited to his face. He does all he can to smarten himself up. Before he goes into the photographer's studio he has a last careful look at his reflection in the mirror. The reaction of the class to the teacher is like his reflection in the mirror. The smarter and neater the man, the better and nicer the photograph. Similarly the more observant and more keen the teacher, the better effect he will have on the class. Surely, an ordinary man can hope to have a pre-

sentable and pleasing photograph taken of himself, and it is not the prerogative of only the handsome man to be photographed. In the same way why cannot an ordinary teacher, with care and trouble make himself into a good teacher.

All this cannot be achieved in a day, or in a month or even in a year. I do maintain that an ordinary man, educated in the right sense of the word, with or without a string of extra Degrees or Diplomas, can make himself into a teacher, worthy of that name and worthy to be a real unit of that much maligned profession.

DUST STORMS IN INDIA

BY MR. KESHVASHARAN AGARWALA, M.Sc., LL.B.

THE severe dust storms that swept over the United Provinces, Delhi, Rajputana, Baluchistan and Sind in May last are by no means a rare phenomenon in this country. In fact, the occurrence of such storms is very common in India and is somewhat of a periodical nature. During dust storms the wind carrying dust or sand blows with a high velocity. It is the tremendous force of the wind that causes damage to property while the accompanying dust results in serious deterioration of the visibility and proves so dangerous to traffic, etc.

Dust storms are known by different names in different parts of the world. They are called 'Habooobs' in Sudan, and the term 'Simoom' is applied in the Sahara and Arabian deserts. They are popularly known by the term 'Andhi' in northern India. It is usual to distinguish between

dust storms, dust raising winds and dust devils. Dust storms occur over a considerable area at the same time and are often associated with squalls and thunderstorms. Dust raising winds are strong winds which raise dust or sand from ground to higher levels and carry it to a considerable distance. Dust raising winds are common in Baluchistan and northwest India mainly in the hot season. A dust storm has a smaller duration than the dust raising winds. Dust devils also known as sand pillars are isolated eddies or whirlwinds carrying up the dust or sand into the air with them. They have a rotary movement, both in clockwise and counter-clockwise direction and reach a height upto 3,000 ft. As they develop, dust devils raise small clouds of dust which rise high enough to obscure vertical visibility.

The incidence of dust storms in India usually causes considerable damage to house property fruit gardens and standing crops and is therefore a matter of great concern to fruit growers farmers etc. An idea of the extent of damage done will be obtained if one goes through the reported accounts of dust storm. During the severe dust storms that visited Delhi on 20th and 21st May last the wind reached a speed of 50 to 60 miles per hour and resulted in the uprooting of many trees destruction of huts and dislocation of traffic. The worst sufferers are usually the fruit orchards on account of the untimely falling down of unripe fruits in large quantities from the trees. These storms occurred both in the morning and afternoon as well as at night and were followed by refreshing showers of rain which brought a welcome break in the spell of sweltering heat otherwise prevailing.

Another kind of havoc which dust storms often cause is that serious fires break out during such storms. On account of the high wind the storm only fans the fire once it has started and makes it wide spread causing loss of property as well as life. During a storm that occurred in the village of Fatehpur in Cawnpore District in May last a devastating fire broke out and resulted in the destruction of 32 houses and serious injury to two boys. The storm that swept over Almora on 28th and 29th May last was reported to be so severe that apart from the enormous damage it caused to property a person was blown off by it and received serious injuries. A dust storm which was reported from the west U P on 23rd May 1916

was so severe in intensity that loose wagons lying in the yard for unloading at Sonart railway station were caused to collide with one another by the storm. As the onset of the storm threw a blanket of dust over the whole yard the persons unloading one of the wagons took shelter under the wagons as the wagons collided five of the persons were killed instantaneously and eight others sustained injuries.

Apart from the damage that they cause to property dust storms sometimes prove very dangerous to aircraft in flight. With the visibility generally becoming poor or bad due to the air being laden with dust flying when a dust storm is on needs the highest skill on the part of the pilot and is still full of hazard. Here is a description of the flier's experience in a North Indian dust storm.

We had risen high above the Agra plain and were some 70 miles on our way (to Jodhpur) when in the far distance a mighty wall seemed to rise sheer out of the earth a barrier that mounted higher and higher and became ever more thick and menacing as though it would say 'thou shalt not pass'. We pressed on to meet the challenge rising still higher until the altimeter registered 12 000 ft, but we might as well have risen to the stratosphere in the effort to get clear of the enemy for the dark brown wall rose higher than we did its vanguard was already in touch with us whistling and howling around our tiny aircraft like a legion of devils. It was getting black as night nothing was visible but the rampart of dark brown dust.

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It will be clear from the above as to how hazardous it is for the airmen to fly when a dust storm is on and how very important it is for him to make himself familiar with the different types of dust storms and to be supplied with timely and accurate forecasts regarding their approach. It is rarely practicable to 'fly over the storms and in most cases it is best to avoid them. If a landing is contemplated, the airmen must make it in good time so that the aircraft may be placed under cover and protected from the penetrating dust and the violent wind.

Besides the immense national loss that they inflict on the country in the form of damage to property etc referred to above, dust storms have adverse effect on the health of the population. Dust finds its way into the human system in large quantities during dust storms and gives rise to serious types of ailments. It is said that during the last war a few of the soldiers who served in the African desert for a considerable period, had developed some disease as a result of deposit of dust and sand in the chest and stomach.

Dust storms in India occur chiefly during the hot weather months April to August. They occur occasionally during the months of March, September and October and are rare during the remaining months. Dust storms are the most frequent during the months of May and June when they occur on about one-third of the days in a month in Rajputana. They are experienced chiefly in the Northwest Frontier, Baluchistan, the Punjab, Sind, Rajputana and U. P. and in

the central parts of the country. Their incidence is occasional in northeast India and the Deccan; elsewhere they are rare. During the period April to June, strong dust storms and thunder storms in northwest India are associated with cold fronts of western disturbances. Earlier in the period they are accompanied with little rain but as the season advances, they are attended with more and more rain.

The hour of occurrence of dust storms in India is different with different storms, and dust storms may occur at any time of the day or night. The dust storm reports, however, indicate that a large majority of them occur during the day hours and in the afternoons or evenings. On the other hand, the occurrence of dust storms at night is not uncommon in India. The duration of a dust storm in the country is generally some minutes and it rarely lasts for several hours at a stretch. To cite an example, the dust storm that visited Cawnpore city and its suburbs on the 23rd May 1946, lasted for about half an hour in the afternoon.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

Future of Cottage Industries in Travancore

BY MR J NIGAM MA

Dept of English D A V College Calicut

It is really gratifying to note that Travancore State Government is taking keen interest in the revival of cottage industries. Formerly very little interest was taken by the Government in this respect its energies having been largely confined to large scale industries alone. Now the Government is giving considerable help to the rural construction centres at Marthandam in South Travancore and Ollannur in Central Travancore. With such good recognition as this the future of cottage industries which are now widely recognised as an important branch of National Planning is secure. In Germany Japan Belgium Holland and China cottage industries occupy an important place. They were at their zenith in old India. If they have fallen in disgrace now it is not because they have failed. India is a land of cottage industries. The local demand and taste for artistic things together with the hereditary skill and past tradition offer wide prospects. Only bold efforts on the part of the people and the Government are needed.

Travancore is essentially an agricultural state. Her problems as in the rest of India are mostly rural. A large percentage of her population is engaged in agriculture. This all the more necessitates the growth of this culture as the peasants must do something in the spare time they get for four or five months in the year. A little encouragement from the Government is sure to bring about bright results. The people know the art already. They have only to take up the thread where it was

left long ago at the mercy of the few artisans who had no other alternative but to stick to their job despite untold privations.

The principal cottage industries which can be exploited to the State's advantage are Handloom industry ivory and pottery works coir products matting ivory works and making of bronze vessels. The handloom industry is India's old pride and honour. In days gone by the art had reached such heights of perfection that it was the envy of the world. Even at the present day when things are so neglected the industry enjoys a well built reputation. Shawls worked with gold and silver threads command a good market. The art is mostly concentrated in the Southern part of the State and has won more than local fame.

As fine clay is available in abundance the pottery industry has a bright future. As people cook their food in earthen pots they are in great demand. The state at present is not able to meet this huge demand and therefore it is only in the fitness of things that this industry must be enlarged. It requires little or no capital and can very easily be taken up by those people, who do not get enough work on the field.

Coir products are the state's chief speciality. The industry is mostly concentrated in the coastal belt. Travancore yarn and coir are famous all over the world. A good number of people depend on this industry. It is the duty of the state that it must come to the help of these poor people and

open centres where they can receive training. During the last five or six years when the export trade died up the people faced untold privations. Now that the war is over the industry can once again be revived.

As mats are much in use in South India the mat industry has also a bright future. Pine and palm leaves can be got in abundance and they can be exploited in a very easy manner. Beautiful articles can be made from these leaves which cost nothing but a little labour.

Travancore state is also famous for ivory works. Skilled labour can easily be found. The artisans display a high sense of art and craftsmanship and the industry is much in repute.

The state is also famous for bronze vessels which are made in abundance. Beautiful vessels of all size and variety are a notable feature of the state.

There are various other small industries which can easily be started, if the state takes due care to eliminate the undesirable influence of the middlemen. Unluckily the chain of middlemen in the state is very long. A good number of middlemen thrive on the blood of the poor artisans who have no other alternative but to seek their

help. This menacing influence must go if we want to see the artisans flourish. This cannot go until the state takes a lively interest and co-operative credit societies are opened all over the state. Co-operation is bound to bring for us a new heaven and a new earth. It is no use emphasising its importance in this short article. The co-operative Department must come to the help of the poor and the needy men who have no other alternative but to fall in the clutches of the middlemen who have captured every industry.

What the state can do in this respect is the thing that counts. Without the patronage of the state the art which is more or less paralysed, cannot be brought back to life. The state can grant subsidies, open training centres, open cheap sources of credit and introduce better methods of production. The state authorities know well what they can do. They need not be told anything in this respect. But it must be said that without their help and co-operation, not much can be expected from the poor artisans. Now that the state authorities are taking keen interest in the revival of the old art and culture, let us hope the future of the industries is secure in their hands.

THE PROBLEM OF PALESTINE

By PROF. S. B. MOOKERJEE, M.A.

It is more than a year that the curtain has been rung down upon the cataclysmic upheaval known as World War II. The much advertised and full-throated assurance of the 'four freedoms', human brotherhood and the like are in the dreamland as yet.

On the contrary, imperialist greed seems to be precipitating World War III.

A number of storm centres have forced themselves upon the attention of the exhausted, anxious and nervous world to-day. It is not at all unlikely that one

of these will serve as the spark to ignite the colossal powder box which the world to day is and bombs made of atomic energy and of cosmic rays will drive the last nails into the coffin of human civilization

The Middle East happens to be one such storm centre. The recent happenings in the luckless region—the terroristic activities of the Jewish organisations in Palestine anti Jewish demonstrations in Cairo Alexandria, Damascus Beirut and Baghdad strikes and demonstrations in Palestine in protest against the posting of British troops have rivetted the attention of the whole world upon the Middle East. The partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arabian zones (Ihudistan and Arabistan?) in the meanwhile seems to be in the offing

It is due to a multiplicity of factors that the Middle East is of extraordinary importance to capitalist imperialism. For one thing it is one of the life lines of the West and a principal connecting link between the West on the one hand and countries like India Australia China etc on the other. For another, it is no less important as a grower of new materials and also a purchaser of the finished products of the highly industrialised countries of the West. For yet a third it is an ideal ground for the investment of the surplus capital of the capitalistic countries. Last but not least the rise of the air power has made the ownership of bases in the Middle East an important weapon in the struggle for air supremacy

We shall confine ourselves in the present article to Palestine alone. Palestine naturally reminds one of Arab Jewish disputes. The apparently are the outcome of

religious and cultural differences. But the root cause lies elsewhere

The Middle East, as noted above, is admirably fitted for the investment of the surplus capital of the West, which has enjoyed an undisputed and all but monopolistic supremacy therein till now. A few examples selected at random will elucidate what has been said above. Thus about 50 per cent. of the landed property and about 75 per cent of other properties in Egypt are in the hands of foreign capitalists. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the industrial capital and $\frac{9}{10}$ of the total motor power used in Palestine are controlled by foreigners. Syria is a little better off. But almost all the industrial concerns of Iraq are owned and controlled by foreign capital. All the oil fields of the Middle East—Iraq Baheria Saudi^{ar} Egypt and Iran—have been monopolised^d by foreign capital. 79.16 and 5 per cent of these are owned by England, the USA and France respectively. How vital this is for the world's balances of power becomes evident from the following remark of E. De Golyer— 'The centre of gravity of world oil production is shifting from the Mexican Gulf and Caribbean area to the Middle East—Persian Gulf area and is likely to continue to shift until it is firmly established in that order'

Finance capital is actuated by the sole object of the exploitation of the Middle East. It seeks to purchase raw materials at a cheap price and to secure a market for its finished product. Economic independence of the Middle East will follow as a natural corollary of its industrial development. A politically free Middle East again will be inevitably followed by the fullest industrial

development of the region. This will mean the end of the two fold exploitation referred to above. Foreign capital is therefore interested in preventing the industrial development of the Middle East by all means—fair and otherwise. Capitalist policy will therefore mean the perpetuation of the abject poverty of its inhabitants. This will keep down the cost of production by making it easy for the capitalist to secure raw materials at a cheap price and to pay ridiculously low wages to the labourers.

As in all colonial and semi colonial countries, a class of indigenous capitalists under the ægis of foreign capitalists has sprung into existence all over the Middle East. In all colonial and semi colonial countries the former plays the second fiddle to the latter for a time. But at a subsequent stage of development the two come to the parting of the ways and conflict of interest makes enemies of the erstwhile allies. In the meanwhile joint exploitation of the masses by the capitalists—alien and indigenous—drags down the masses to the lowest level of economic degradation and their urge for freedom from exploitation gradually becomes crystallised. The exploiter seeks to divert this revolutionary sentiment along wrong channels and attains his object by the age old policy of divide and rule.

The problem of Palestine in the last analysis is the creation of capitalist imperialism which is waging its last ditch fight for existence every where in the Middle East. The genesis of the problem of Palestine lies in the assurance of late Balfour to resettle the Jews in Palestine as a reward for their valuable contribution to Allied war efforts during the Great War (1914-18). Palestine

was once the home of the Jews. An adverse turn of the wheel of fortune ousted them from their ancestral homeland. But they had never ceased casting 'a longing lingering look' upon the promised land. The War ended in the complete discomfiture of the central powers. Jews in large numbers began to settle in Palestine which it must be admitted owes much of its present prosperity to Jewish capital and industry. In 1939 the Jews owned 40.3 per cent of the total capital invested in Palestine while other foreigners owned 53.2 per cent and Arabs and other non Jewish communities 6.5 per cent. Jewish capital had made such great strides under the fostering care of imperialist capitalism.

The proletariat all the world over are awaking into a consciousness of their economic, political and moral degradation and the realisation of the root cause thereof. The energies of the awakened masses unless diverted along wrong channels will drag down the exploiter from his pedestal of artificial eminence in no remote future. To avoid this inevitable doom the foreign capitalists of Palestine have successfully invoked the aid of 'divide et impera' and taught the Arabs and the Jews that their interests are poles asunder. It is why French imperialism is busy adding fuel to the flame of Muslim-Christian antagonism in Syria and Lebanon and British imperialism copts Muslim antagonism in Egypt, Arab-Assyrian hostility in Iraq and Arab-Jewish enmity in Palestine. The game has succeeded and admirably worked according to plan so much so that the Arabs of Palestine to day think of driving out the Jews and not the English from Palestine.

A word or two on the communal bickering in India in general and the Hindu Muslim disputes in particular may not be irrelevant. Imperialist exploitation has dragged down the masses to the lowest level of degradation. The masses are eager to know what the root cause of their sufferings is. Conscience even capitalist conscience they say, is the best monitor. The exploiter knows it full well that his throne built on the patience of countless millions will collapse like a house of cards

when confronted with the awakening of India's 400 millions. Hence the smoke screen of communal differences and in the political arena of India we come across such strange phenomena as slaughter of cows and music before mosque, separate electorates, Communal Award, Pakistan, Hindustan, Sikhistan and what not!

The malady of India and Palestine is one and the same. The Arab Jewish antagonism as well as the Hindu Muslim are politico-economic and not religious.

NATIONALISM AND WORLD-PEACE

By MR. RAJENDRA NATH SINHA B.A. (Hons.)

IT is no doubt true that nationalism has lost its noble purpose and fallen from its high ideals to-day. It has degenerated into a narrow cult of hatred and violence. Indeed it has sunk to such a depth of moral depravity that nations have lost mutual trust and the world has become a camp of hostile nations—armed *cap-a-pie* ready to cut each other's throat. This state of affairs is certainly to be deplored and pitied.

The present-day nationalism of the West has assumed the appearance of such an ugly and ghastly monster that it filled with dismay the heart of the poet the late Dr. Rabindra Nath Tagore who delivered a series of illuminating lectures in America on the evils of nationalism when the world was witnessing the horrors of the World War No. 1. But the fault does not lie with nationalism for true nationalism has as its ideals the highest virtues and there is nothing antagonistic between nationalism and inter-

nationalism—nay nationalism is the means for the fulfilment of Internationalism. Nationalism cannot be condemned for all the hatred and ill feeling that is associated with its name any more than Christianity, the religion of love is to be condemned because at some dark period in its history the votaries of Christ burnt witches' and scientists in the name of Christianity. Nationalism is not to be given up but has to be freed from the crust of narrowness and hatred that have formed over it. Only a little while ago the whole world was plunged into the deadliest war ever known to history and the poisonous cult of nationalism is said to be responsible for it. The nations try to throw the blame for war upon one another and each nation or group of nations thinks that all that is necessary is to defeat or crush the other nations or groups. On this line of approach there is no hope for securing a permanent peace. The causes of war lie deeper than the immediate occasions of

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the war And a peace which should merely register the defeat of one or other of the groups of Powers, while leaving unchanged the systems and passions, would be merely, as every previous peace has been, a truce before the next war It is the state of affairs that we must change to ensure a durable peace and we should not merely shout rhetorical slogans against nationalism

At present nationalism has come to mean, 'my country right or wrong', and it is not regarded as an organ of humanity as it ought to be A nation is a holy and necessary institution just as a family is a holy and necessary institution Nationalism bears the same relation to humanity which a family bears to a nation Just as different individuals and families inhabiting a country make a nation so different nations make humanity

What does nationalism really mean? It means the attainment of culture refinement education and character and fulfilment of other ideals by a nation according to its own traditions and genius Nationalism, if understood rightly is bound to give rise to happiness and bliss for all Nationalism stands then in the mind of people struggling to be free for self development and self expression Nationalism is a spirit of love a reverence for the mother land and its culture The country is exalted to the position of a mother and all the citizens become kith and kin It, therefore, cannot be dangerous How can love of one's own country be a danger to another country? How can love of one's own mother be harmful to another mother? On the other hand, if he loves his mother

he should inspire others to a similar love of their mothers and this will lead to fellow feeling

Nationalism is not an enemy of world-peace but a great aid to it if nationalism is understood rightly and followed sincerely But how many men are sincere? At present while there is loud talk of Internationalism, there are also heavy military preparations Outside we talk of peace, but inside we prepare for war The powerful nations of the West are the greatest sinners in this respect

Let us remember what Mazzini, one of the greatest lovers of humanity and nationalism, says about our duties to our country Says he "As a wise overseer of labour distributes the various branches of employment according to the different capacities of the workmen, God divided Humanity into distinct groups or nuclei upon the face of the earth thus creating the germ of Nationalities" He further says 'in labouring for our own country on the right principle, we labour for humanity Our country is the fulcrum of the lever we have to wield for the common good If we abandon that fulcrum we run the risk of rendering ourselves useless not only to Humanity out to our country itself Before men can associate with the nations of which humanity is composed, they must have a national existence'

* Hilton Young, in a beautiful little poem tells us that even Christ who died for humanity had a soft corner in his heart for Bethlehem where he was born and for Mount Lebanon on which he wandered in boyhood He fancies that as Jesus's eyes were closed in death at Golgotha they turned with passionate love to the village streets of Nazareth If Jesus had a special attraction for his home why should it be a crime for us to share His feeling? So let us love Humanity through our country Let us love the whole world through India our motherland JAI HIND

THE NATIONAL WAR ACADEMY

By DR. AMARNATH JHA

Vice Chairman National War Academy Committee

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India is fully aware that her right to freedom implies equally her responsibility to defend that freedom against aggression either from abroad or from within. This requires complete Indianisation of her armed forces. The principle of Indianisation having been accepted, the Government of India is planning to set up an institution to train up officers for our defence forces. In this article Dr Jha who has been touring the country in connection with the establishment of a National War Academy traces the history of Indianisation of the army and reveals the plans of the Government of India to translate the accepted principle into action—[ED I R]

IN 1856 the strength of the Indian Army was over 214,000 and that of the British forces 28,000. The Bengal army was recruited in the main from high caste Hindus of Bihar, Oudh and the Province of Agra. Distinctions of caste and religion were not emphasised in the Madras and Bombay armies. But after 1857, the proportion of high caste Hindus was substantially cut down and the areas and classes from which the Bengal army used to be recruited were almost entirely excluded from future recruitment. A policy of segregating the classes and races composing the Army, was adopted. A new theory of martial and non-martial classes was put forward. Recruitment began to be confined to the North West Frontier and the Punjab. There was practically no recruitment in the United Provinces, Bihar, Bengal, the Central Provinces, Bombay, Madras. The Indian Army could not thus be regarded as a National Army.

No Indian was placed in a position of authority in the Indian Army. Lord Roberts who was genuinely attached to the Indian soldier said: 'However well educated and clever a native may be and

however brave he may have proved himself, I believe that no rank that we can bestow upon him would cause him to be considered as an equal by the British officer or looked up to by the last joined British subaltern'. This view continued to prevail until 1918 when, for the first time, Indians were given King's Commissions. But the distrust of the educated Indians persisted. The Shea Committee, reporting in 1922, said that it has yet to be proved that any body of officers drawn largely from other classes of the community will prove equal in soldierly quality to the Indian officers of the old type.

SKEEN COMMITTEE

Indianisation of the officer ranks in a period of thirty years began with what was known as the Light Units Scheme. In 1925 another committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Lt. General Sir Andrew Skeen. It was asked to enquire and report by what means it may be possible to improve upon the present supply of Indian candidates for the King's Commission both in regard to number and quality and whether it is desirable and practicable to establish a military college in India to train Indians for the

commissioned ranks of the Indian Army The Skeen Committee recommended the establishment of a military college in 1933, the abandonment of the scheme of Indianisation by units, fifty per cent of the total cadre of officers in the Indian Army to consist of Indians by 1952, the basis for the recruitment of officers to be broadened and selection not to be confined to the so called martial classes The Defence Sub Committee of the Round Table Conference of 1931 passed the following resolutions

(1) That with the development of the new political structure in India, the defence of India must, to an increasing extent be the concern of the Indian people and not of the British Government alone

2 In order to give practical effect to this principle they recommend that immediate steps be taken to increase substantially the rate of Indianisation in the Indian Army to make it commensurate with the main object in view having regard to all relevant considerations such as the maintenance of the requisite standard of efficiency (Mr. Jinnah dissented and desired a clear indication of the pace of Indianisation)

When the War broke out in 1936 there were not more than 500 Indians, holding King's Commission, in the Indian Army At the end of the War there were about 8000 Indians, holding King's Commission In the Indian Air Force there were not enough Indian officers for even ten squadrons In the Royal Indian Navy the position was no better, although there were training establishments

On October 22, 1945, the Commander in Chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck announced that the Government of India, in agreement with His Majesty's Government, have made the following decisions

The grant of Permanent Commission in the Royal Indian Navy and the Indian Army will, in future be restricted to Indians and to other persons domiciled in India who are subjects of His Majesty or of a Prince of the Chief in India The recruitment of officers to the Royal Indian Air Force is already subject to this restriction

WAR ACADEMY

It is in this background that the proposal for a National War Academy for India has to be considered In May 1945 the Government of India issued a press *communiqué* in which it was stated that they have decided that the establishment of a military academy on the lines of the United States Military Academy at West Point for the education and basic training of all future officers of the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Army, and the Royal Indian Air Force be the most suitable form for the Indian National War Memorial In pursuance of this decision the Government of India appointed a committee to prepare a scheme for the establishment of the proposed military academy with special reference to such matters as the title of the Academy, its location and size, the strength of its establishments, the age and methods of entry, the duration of the course and the syllabus, the degree or other qualifications attainable by the graduates of the Academy and the methods by which it should be financed The committee consisted of H E the Commander in Chief, (chairman), Dr Amarnath Jha (vice chairman) the Chief of the General Staff the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, the Air Officer Commanding, War Secretary to the Government of India, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, Sir Mirza Ismail, Rao Raja Narpat Singh, Mian Afzal Hussain,

Mr W X Mascarenhas, and Mr A E Foot A sub committee consisting of Dr Jha Mian Afzal Hussain and Mr Mascaranhas together with three service officers Maj General Bateman, Group Captain Mukerji and Commodore Jefford visited the service academies in America, Canada, and Great Britain, and submitted its reports to the main committee

THE SCOPE

The National War Academy will be situated near Kharagvasla Lake in the vicinity of Poona It will occupy a unique position among the cadet training institutions of the world in as much as it will be the only Academy where future officers of all the three fighting services will be trained together As at present estimated, it will have about 2700 cadets under training Those who have passed the Matriculation or equivalent examinations will be eligible for the qualifying test which will be simple, on being approved by the selection board and passing the medical test they will be admitted to the Academy Approximately 600 to 700 cadets will be admitted every year The course at the Academy will be of four years duration It is hoped that the academic standard attained on the successful completion of the course will be equivalent to that of a bachelor's degree of a university The aim will be to give sound general education as well as service and technical education Thus, a cadet can offer a general course, including finance and banking, business and industrial organisation communication and transport civics

psychology, and economics, or an engineering course, including mathematics, heat engineering, electrical engineering, fluid mechanics surveying and engineering drawing In addition there will be certain subjects which every cadet will have to learn These include English, history, statistics science, book keeping, military history, military geography, law and field engineering

The academic instructors will for the most part be civilians In addition there will be a large number of service officers who will be in charge of administration and of instruction in service subjects, flying aero engines, aerodynamics meteorology naval law and armament

There will be every facility for physical education games, and athletics

An institution like this can succeed, if it attracts the best Indian youth It will succeed in being truly national, if from all over the country bright lads, intelligent, industrious, having the highest character, straightforward and loyal to the best traditions of India come forward in large numbers to join it Then the National War Academy will justify the high hopes of those who are planning it and will turn out officers of whom any country may well be proud It will succeed, if it receives the help and support of the Provinces and States and national leaders It will succeed, if educationists give to the youth the preliminary training which will enable them to make the fullest use of the education which will be provided at the Academy

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By 'AN INDIAN JOURNALIST'

India's Foreign Policy

In his first broadcast on assumption of office as Vice President of the Interim Government, Pandit Nehru declared that "now that the initiative has come to our people it is for us to make the history of our choice". In pursuance of this view the Pandit outlined his foreign policy, that is to say the foreign policy of the new Government of India, at his recent Press Conference in Delhi. Addressing the journalists assembled in his capacity as Minister in charge of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, the Pandit made a number of announcements on future policy. That policy will be decided for India by Indians and in strict accord with the interests of this country unhampered by outside dictation or interference.

In the sphere of Foreign Affairs India will follow an independent policy, keeping away from the power politics of groups aligned one against another.

He added that India will uphold the principle of freedom for dependent peoples and will oppose racial discrimination wherever it may occur. She will work with other peace-loving nations for international co-operation and goodwill without exploitation of one nation by another.

Pandit Nehru continued

It is necessary that with the attainment of her full international status India should establish contact with all the great nations of the world and that her relations with neighbouring countries in Asia should become still closer. Towards this end it is proposed to despatch a Goodwill Mission to the Middle East and to establish contacts which will in the first instance be informal with countries of both Western and Eastern Europe. It is also proposed to station an Indian Consul at Bangkok and a Vice Consul at Saigon in the near future.

So far as her near neighbours are concerned India will watch with close interest the development of events in Palestine, Iran, Indonesia, China, Siam and Indo-China as well as in the foreign possessions in India itself, with every sympathy with the aspirations of the peoples of these lands for the attainment of internal peace, freedom (where they lack it) and of their due place in the comity of nations.

In future we shall have a much larger number of diplomatic representatives abroad and we shall deal with them direct instead

of through the British Foreign Office. They will have higher status and will in time be Ambassadors. Direction and advice to them will go from India and not from London.

It was Gokhale's regret that the 'upward impulse' which every school boy at Eton and Harrow may feel that he may one day be a Gladstone, a Nelson or a Wellington, and which may draw forth the best efforts of which he is capable, that is denied to us. It is hoped that under the new conditions 'the full height to which our manhood is capable of rising can now be reached and 'the moral elevation which every self-governing people feel' is not altogether beyond our reach.

Congress Attitude to Grouping

Assam need not be perturbed over the question of grouping, says Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in reply to a telegram regarding the Congress stand on the question of grouping of provinces.

It may be recalled that the Pandit in referring to the heated arguments about sections and grouping had said that he and his colleagues 'do not look upon the Constituent Assembly as an arena for conflict or for the forcible imposition of one view point over another'.

This has been interpreted to mean that Congress will acquiesce in the grouping plan even against the declared intentions of the Provinces. Pandit Nehru says: 'I do not think there is any necessity for you to be perturbed by my broadcast. There appears to be some confusion between a Section and a Group. At no time have we refused to go into a section to discuss matters. The question of forming groups is another matter and it is for a province to agree or not to agree.'

So there can be no imposition on the Provinces whose autonomy in such matters should be respected.

The New Way with the Frontier Tribes

The other day Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan sounded a timely note of warning against the mischievous propaganda carried on by a section of the Muslim press and people against the new Interim Government 'Beware of the Muslim League propagandists and do not be duped by their mischievous slogans', he warned.

The Frontier Muslim League's latest propaganda line is that the bombing in Waziristan has been done under the orders of the Nehru Government. The truth is that the bombing was carried out in August when the National Government which took charge on September 2 had not even been formed.

It has long been the traditional method of the bureaucracy to deal with the tribes as if they were enemies who should be exterminated at any cost. Aerial bombing and destruction of their huts and habitations was their method of 'Pacification'.

Time and again Indian opinion had protested, though unavailing, against such bombings, not only are they cruel, they are admittedly ineffective. The first thing Mr Jawaharlal Nehru did on assuming office was therefore to order that the bombing operations which were going on should be stopped, thus giving concrete proof of the fact that, whatever might be the legal limitations under which the new Government has to act, it can assert itself effectively when necessary.

'It is an irony of fate says the Khan Sahib that those who are out to disturb the peace of the border and foment communal trouble are allowed to infiltrate into the tribal territory and incite the tribesmen to rise for a jihad while to those who are non-violent and carry the gospel of peace the doors are barred. The Pathans should see through this game clearly.'

We hope Pandit Nehru's promised visit to the Frontier with the Khan Sahib will be fruitful of a lasting settlement of their troubles and ensure peace and freedom for that distracted land.

The Food Crisis in India

In a nationwide broadcast the other day, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Food Minister in the Interim Government, warned the people that it may become necessary, and our people must be prepared for a further reduction in the ration of cereals. Now this is not a happy prospect, but it is none of their making. The crisis is there ugly and grim, and we have to face it, and face it with patience and skill. The Food Minister has already grappled with the problem in dead earnest and the fact that we are no worse, is perhaps due to the firm handling of the situation by those charged with the responsibility. Already, a consignment of rice has arrived in Cochin harbour from our friends in Indonesia. Another consignment is expected from Burma. While we are grateful to the countries which have helped us so far we must realise, said the Food Minister, 'that we have to depend on ourselves to prevent a breakdown and this we can do and must do'.

Both Mahatma Gandhi and Rajen Babu have insisted time and again, that we must not be depending on imports only. Our efforts should be directed to making India self-sufficient in food as in clothing and other things. Our main problem, said Rajen Babu at the meeting of the Governing Body of the Imperial Council of Agriculture and Research,

is to link our manpower with the vast material resources of the country and to develop them according to a plan. In planned scientific development lies the salvation of the country and in this great task scientific research workers particularly those who have chosen agriculture and animal husbandry as fields for their activities have a great task to perform.

'In our search for better tools and means of irrigation', Dr Rajendra Prasad rightly pointed out,

we should not forget that these will not be utilised unless they are such as our ordinary cultivators can afford.

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Gandhi Jayanti

The 77th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi was an occasion for universal rejoicing. Gandhi is now in Delhi and not in Sewagram—a fact that carries with it great significance. He is in Delhi in connection with problems concerned with the establishment of the new Interim National Government. It is given to few men to see the fulfilment—partial fulfilment it may be—of their life long efforts. Ever since he returned from South Africa Gandhi has been the soul of the National movement in India guiding inspiring and directing it in his own way.

Hoisting the National Flag at Bhangsi Colony Delhi Dr Rajendra Prasad said that India owed an enormous debt to Mahatma Gandhi. He had given the country the flag which they all revered and brought India to the threshold of freedom. He was the prophet of peace and universal brotherhood. We should all pray to God for his long life.

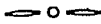
Mahatma Gandhi is the symbol of India's rebirth and each anniversary of his birthday reminds us as Vijayalakshmi said in her message,

that our goal has still to be reached and that this day should be one of the rededication to the cause of Indian freedom.

The message of Gandhi is not meant for India alone—it has a deep significance for the world which is today torn by suspicion and conflict. To the extent that this message is understood will depend the future peace and prosperity of the universe. Let us pledge our lives to work for the realisation of this end.

End of S I Ry Strike

All's well that ends well. For a whole month South India has been distracted by a strike which made life altogether intolerable. It may be that the strikers had reasons and very sound reasons too for the grave step they took but they certainly failed to carry the public wholeheartedly with them. The public certainly sympathised with them in their grievances and would doubtless be glad to see them redressed without delay. But the present strike was rather ill timed coming as it did after the fret and fever of war time hardships and weariness. And then the country was anxious that the New National Government that has just been installed at the Centre and the new popular Government in the Provinces must be given time and opportunity to deal with the situation with due care and patient attention. This could not be done in the hurry and passion created by the crisis. Thanks to the patient and firm handling of Mr Asaf Ali the strike which was telling on our nerves has been called off and trains have begun to keep to their normal schedule. Mr Asaf Ali is now conferring with the leaders concerned and with the management and we have no doubt that a settlement satisfactory to all the parties will be duly arrived at.



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By 'CHRONICLER'

Paris Peace Talks

BIG Four Foreign Ministers decided to suggest to the Paris Conference that it should adopt a time table with October 5 as the deadline for completing the work of the Conference Committees.

They also agreed that the plenary session of the Conference should end by October 15. With a view to meeting this deadline, they agreed to suggest to the Conference that appropriate organs of the Conference should establish a procedure which should if necessary, limit the number of speeches in a committee and possibly provide for a quota rule. In the event of a committee not having completed its work before October 6 the Big Four agreed that their deputies should report to them and that they should take further steps.

It was also agreed that plenary sessions should consider each treaty as a whole—that is treaty by treaty, and not committee by committee.

Disposal of Italy's Empire

The Paris Conference on Sept 25 adopted the Big Four's proposals for disposal of Italy's former African Empire, after hearing a new declaration by the Big Four and after defeating the Brazilian and New Zealand amendments.

The procedure adopted is, firstly, a final decision on the Colonies will be taken one year after the coming into force of the Italian Treaty by the Big Four taking cognisance of the wishes of the inhabitants and of the views of 'other interested Governments', which will include all countries which fought in North Africa. Secondly, the Colonies will meanwhile remain under their present mainly British administration. Thirdly if the Big Four fail to agree they will submit the question to the United Nations General Assembly and abide by its decision.

These proposals were adopted by 19 votes, only Australia abstaining.

Interim Government for Burma

A historic milestone in Burma's constitutional progress was reached when the Governor announced the formation of the country's interim National Government on Sept 25.

The new Government will exercise the same powers as the Indian Interim Government and for the first time, Burmans will hold the portfolio of Defence and External Relations.

All the major political parties will be represented in the Government which will be composed of eleven members including six from the Anti Fascist League.

The new Burmese Government stands for a 'policy of lasting friendship with Britain,' said Major General Aung San, President of the Anti Fascist League who has assumed office of Defence Counsellor.

He said that the Government were determined to throw in their weight on the side of the United Nations Organisation to enable it to carry out effectually the aims and principles it had adopted. Turning to India, he said:

With Pandit Nehru at the helm it will be possible for us to maintain the closest relations. Just as India was in need of some of Burma's products so Burma required some of India's. Burma might need other forms of assistance from India but for the moment the new Government had not yet met to consider the question.

Mr Eden on Peace Talks

Mr Antony Eden, former Foreign Secretary, speaking at Watford, Hertfordshire, on Sept 23 expressed concern at the events at the Paris Conference.

"It is foolish," he said, "to minimise the seriousness of the situation." He continued:

"It is profoundly disquieting. It is not so much that I see in this state of affairs an imminent threat of war. That is not the immediate danger. But anyone who reads the reports of the Paris Conference can judge for himself how vehement and antagonistic have grown with every passing week.

In three great conflicts the Russian and British peoples have been allies. After two of them we fell away with unhappy consequences to mankind. We do not want that to happen again—yet, it is happening now, before our eyes with no benefit to anyone."

Election Battle in U S

President Truman said in a speech at Washington on Sept 24

'We are in just as great an emergency—and I have been ever since the V-J Day—as we were when the Pearl Harbour incident happened. That emergency will continue until we can get peace and production

Addressing informally a group of 39 Democratic Congressmen from 17 States at the White House, he added

'That is the programme of the Democratic Party. Peace in the world and a production programme that will help rehabilitate that world. It will never be necessary to have unemployment if the programme of the Democratic Party as outlined in 1944 is carried out

The speech, which marked the President's first major excursion in the mounting election campaign battle, accused Republicans of their "obstructionist tactics against domestic problems

Describing the Democratic Party as a 'party of progress', President Truman added

I do not see how any voter who thinks at all can vote for Mr Reece, Mr Taft and Mr Crawford (Republican leaders). It is just impossible. The difficulties with which we are faced now are due in part to the obstructionist tactics of those gentlemen

Mr Carroll Reece is the Republican National Committee Chairman, Mr Robert Taft is a Republican Senator from Ohio and Congressman Fred Crawford fought with them against the restoration of price control

Churchill and Wallace

Mr Winston Churchill, Britain's war time leader, who is on holiday in Switzerland called for a United States of Europe in which the first step must be partnership between France and Germany. 'In this way only can France recover the moral and

cultural leadership of Europe', he declared. Mr Churchill was speaking on the Tragedy of Europe at Zurich University.

The Secretary for Commerce, and former Vice President, Mr Henry Wallace, in a speech at New York denounced 'British Imperialism' and urged a milder American policy towards Russia. President Truman at first endorsed the speech, but after outcry in some American papers and elsewhere later said he had been misunderstood, he had not approved the speech but only Mr Wallace's right to make the speech.

Mr Wallace has since resigned his office at the instance of the President who supported Mr Byrnes, the U S representative at Paris.

New Constitution for France

The French National Assembly adopted on Sept 29 by 440 votes to 106 the text of the new French Constitution which the electors will be asked to approve.

The vote followed five and a half hours' final debate in which spokesmen of the three Government parties declared that the Constitution was the result of compromise and sacrifice on their part and that they would take an early opportunity of trying to improve it—in other words, they would try to recapture some of the concessions which made the compromise possible.

The new Constitution provides France with a two chamber Parliament and an embryo Empire Constitution. Full details of which remain to be worked out.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BRITAIN'S STERLING BALANCES AND EXTERNAL DEBT By Donald F. Heathen
ington of U S Govt East End Publishers
Allengunj Allahabad Rs 112 0

Full of important facts and arguments supported by up to date data and statistics this informative booklet makes an attempt to study the problem of India's sterling balances vis a vis England and her creditors. The writer discusses the causes method of accumulation and the extent of India's sterling balances owned by Britain and also explains the Indo British financial agreement the Anglo Argentine agreement and the repatriation scheme of South Africa. He briefly reviews the position of India's Sterling balances and estimates the extent to which British overseas investments have been depleted through liquidation and repatriation. We thus get a realistic and dispassionate study of the sterling balances and the American reaction to this vital problem.

THREE MYSTIC POETS By Abinash Chandra
Bose School & College Bookstall,
Kolhapur Rs 5

Rabindranath Tagore W B Yeats and A C differed from one another in a number of things but they shared an other worldly vision which brings the western and eastern poets close to one another. Dr Bose has made a very careful and comprehensive study of the mystical characteristics of the three poets. These characteristics are well analysed and amply illustrated so that the real differences between the three poets are also revealed. In bringing out the essential mystical qualities of the three poets Dr Bose shows great skill and even eloquence. Dr J H Cousins has written a valuable Introduction showing that he himself deserves a place with modern mystical poets.

THE FOUNDATION OF MUSLIM RULE IN INDIA
By Dr A B M Habibullah Calcutta
University Sh Muhammad Ashraf, Lahore

The book is a valuable condensed account of the beginnings and consolidation of the Indo Muslim State in the thirteenth century, based on a clever evaluation of original sources and later works and with the Central Asian background dominated by the Mongols kept in proper perspective. Adequate attention is paid to the Hindu states and their interaction on the Muslim power, which was developed by three personalities Aibek, Iltutmish and Balban into an undiluted despotism based on Turkish race superiority in the last generation. Right attention has been focussed on the geographical factors that affected internal expansion as well as external shrinkage in the face of invaders. The treatment is vigorous and amply documented. The book forms a valuable source of study of early Muslim India.

FRENCH FOREIGN POLICY By David
Thomson (67) Oxford University Press 6 as

In the inter war period (1919-1939) the fate of Europe mainly depended on the relations between Britain and France. Divergent interests ideologies and differences of opinion regarding the achievement of common ends often embroiled the relations between the two nations who failed to understand each other's view point. French foreign policy was full of contradictions spasmodic and shifting and British statesmen found it difficult to understand its trend. We get a lucid and lively account of French policy in recent years from this stimulating pamphlet which explains the facts of history, geography, economics and politics in which that development is rooted from the time of Louis XIV down to our own day, culminating in the causes of its failure.

MISS BUNTING By Anjela Thirkell Hamish Hamilton and Thackers Bombay Price Rs 5 14

Mrs Thirkell's new novel is set in the imaginary county of Barsestshire immortalised by Anthony Trollope which is apparently immune from the ravages of time. The older generation of country gentry still lives upon its domains undisturbed by death duties or the imperative need to earn a living though the war has taken away most people between the ages of 17 and 60. The appearance of a new rich manufacturer and his ungainly daughter into country society gives the gifted authoress a chance to show her subtle mastery of the fine shades of manners though the story lacks movement or plot.

CONGRESS AND COMMUNISTS By P C Joshi
People's Publishing House Raj Bhawan,
Sandhurst Road Bombay 4 As 6

The familiar thesis that the Communists in India are a part of the Congress organisation that they have been earnestly working for the unity of India instead of embarking on disruptionist tactics that they are not allies of Imperialism and reaction but sedulously working for the freedom is the main argument of this pamphlet of India. It is also pointed out that the pamphlet is the result of the move by a section of Congressmen to exclude communists from their Sangams and organisations for revival of national consciousness.

BOOKS RECEIVED

SOME FUNDAMENTALS OF INDIAN PROBLEM By B Pattalil Saramayya Vora & Co Publishers Bombay

MAHATMA GANDHI A Short life by B J Akkalra Vora & Co Bombay

TOWARDS STRUGGLE Selected manifestoes speeches and writings By Jaya Prakash Narayan Edited by Yusuf Meharry Padma Publications Ltd Bombay Rs 6 8

CASTE AND OUTCASTE By J P Sanjana Thacker & Co Bombay

ISLAM AND THE THEORY OF INTERFAITH By Anwar Iqbal Qureshi S M A Shroff Lahore

CLIMBERS OF ISLAM By Prince Agha Khan and Dr Zafar Ali Ashraf Publication Lahore Rs 1 8 0

BAHA'U'LLAH AND THE NEW ERA By J H Esselmont Baha Publishing Committee New Delhi

THE HINDU JUDICIAL SYSTEM (Rajha Kumul Mookherjee Fulwament lectures 1945) By S R Varadachari K J Dige Federal Court Publisher by the Lucknow University Lucknow

THE FATAL CART and other Stories By C Raja Gopalabhai The Hindustan Times New Delhi Rs 5

THE PATTERN OF SOVIET POWER By Edgar Snow Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay

CONTROLLED PARENTHOOD or All about Birth control and Promotion of Fertility By Abul Hasan Ali Standard Library P Dacca Rs 3

KASHMIR PAST AND PRESENT By Ganesha Lal B A The Chronicle Publishing House Sir nagar

HOW LIST A WILDFIRE By Poland Cant Left Book Club Edition Victor Gollancz & Co London

THE DISCOVERY OF INDIA By Jawaharlal Nehru The Sagnet Press Calcutta

MISS HARRIET AND OTHER STORIES By Guy de Maupassant Translated from the French by T L Graham Sushil Gupta Calcutta

THE EMPRESS'S PORT THE WITTY BARBER THE ANGRY PIGEON & THE GOLD MINE Children's own Library Kitbgalar Rajkot Rs 4 each

PLANNED DIET FOR INDIA By C C Patta nayak M D & S Khabistan Allahabad

THE FRAGRANCE OF INDIA By Louis Reel Translated from French by Dor & Potter Katalistan Allahabad

SONG OF THE NORTH By Roland Blackmore Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 4 4

COMPLETE INCOME TAX READY RECKONER 1946 By R C Doodhmal G D R Empress Terrace Lamington Road Bombay Rs 3

THE STERLING ASSETS OF THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA By B R Senoy Indian Council of World Affairs Oxford University Press

IMPERIALISM IN S.E. ASIA By Prof D S Nag Foreword by Dr Rajendra Prasad Hamara Hindustan Publications Bombay

SOME POLITICAL ACRIEVEMENTS OF THE CONGRESS By Sarn M. Nelsat Khan Foreword by B G Kler Hamara Hindustan Publications Bombay

TRANSLITERATION INTO THE ROMAN SCRIPT By K G Masirwala Hamara Hindustan Publications Bombay

THOUGHTS OF SHAKESPEARE By N B Sen Foreword by Sir T B Sapru New Book Society Lahore

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- Sept 1 Bombay disturbances, 47 killed and 170 wounded
- Sept 2 Provisional Government at Centre installed
- Sept 3 Heavy vote for Monarchy in Greek Elections
- Sept 4 Lord Wavell discusses S A question with Mrs Pandit chosen delegate to U N O
- Sept 5 Trouble in Golden Rock 400 rounded up
- Sir Patrick Spens appointed to preside over Calcutta Riot Enquiry
- Sept 6 Interim Government cancel pending order against Subhas Bose
- Sept 7 Nehru's first broadcast as Vice president of the Interim Government.
- Khan Gaffar Khan protests against air bombing of tribesmen in the Frontier
- Sept 8 Threat of general strike in U S
- Mills resume work in Bombay
- Sept 9 Four Ministers resign from Sind Ministry Cabinet reshuffling expected
- Sept 10 Mr Jinnah appeals to British Government for further negotiation in London on equal terms with other parties
- Sind Assembly prorogued by Governor
- Sept 11 Calcutta Riots Enquiry terms of reference announced
- Sept 12 Sind Assembly dissolved
- Pandit Nehru orders stopping of Frontier bombing
- Sept 13 Whitehall turns down Mr Jinnah's suggestion of London conference
- Sept 14 Statue of Gandhiji unveiled by Sir Radhakrishnan at Karachi
- Sept 15 President Truman withdraws approval of Mr Henry Wallace's speech on American foreign policy
- Sept 16 Mr Jinnah meets the Viceroy in Delhi
- Sir James Jeans, the eminent British scientist is dead
- Sept 18 Terence Shone appointed first British Commissioner to India
- Sept 19 First consignment of Indonesian rice arrives in Cochin harbour
- Mr Churchill enunciates new policy for United States of Europe
- Sept 20 Former Ministers re appointed in Sind's caretaker Government
- Mr Henry Wallace resigns according to President Truman's desire.
- Sept 21 Frontier leader exposes League propaganda against Interim Government
- Congress Working Committee meets in Delhi
- Sept 22 S I Ry strike called off
- Wavell Jinnah meeting in Delhi
- Sept 23 General strike in Burma
- A I C C endorses Working Committee decisions
- Sept 24 A I C C adopts resolution permitting Interim Government members to be members of Congress Working Committee
- Sept 25 Delhi talks on Gandhi League settlement
- Viceroy meets Gandhiji and Nehru and also Mr Jinnah
- Sept 26 Pandit Nehru at a Press conference outlines India's foreign policy
- Sept 27 Madras to receive 5000 tons of rice from C P in exchange for wheat
- Sept 28 Greek King returns home after 5 years of exile in London
- Sept 29 Calcutta papers decide to suspend publication in protest against Bengal Government's Order
- Sept 30 Madras N G O's withdraw strike notice on Premier's assurance
- Nawab of Bhopal interviews Gandhiji and Mr. Jinnah



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



ISLAM AND INDIAN CULTURE

Prof M. L. Ray-Chaudhury, writing on the influence of Islam on Indian Culture, in the pages of *Perspective*, observes that the greatest credit of the early Muslims lies in the fact that after their conquest of, and settlement in Hindusthan, they did not consider this country to be a land of sojourn but loved it as their own. "All the wealth they earned in India was allowed to remain in India, was spent in India except in the case of Mahmud of Gazni. Thus, as a result of the Pathan conquest of India, India did not become poorer, though her wealth was not equitably distributed. In the absence of any extra-territorial patriotism, the early Muslim conquerors took the Hindus into their confidence and the Hindus too in return rendered ungrudging service and assistance to them in political matters. In course of time, having a common country as their birth-place, breathing a common air, treading on the same land, sharing the common problems of daily life, the Hindus and the Muslims developed a common political platform wherefrom they offered a united resistance to the later invaders of India. This happened in the case of the struggle of the Bahmani Kingdom against Muhammad of Ghawan, in the fields of Panipat, where Ibrahim Lodi fought against Babar, in Orissa where Kutlu Khan fought Maa Singh, or in Bengal where Pratapaditya fought Akbar the Great."

Indeed by means of this liberal political policy adopted whether as a matter of

choice or of necessity, the early Pathans succeeded in developing in India a feeling which cannot be characterized as Muslim rather than Hindu, but was truly Indian.

RUSSIAN APPREHENSION

The basic question in all Russian discussion of their future plans is simply this, how can Russia keep herself secure in a world that is hostile to her? observes A. J. Taylor in *The Listener*. "Don't get impatient and say: It's idiotic of the Russians to suppose that the world is hostile to them or that they are in any danger.' Let me try to explain how it seems to the Russians. Russian apprehension of the outer world is very old: it does not begin with the Bolshevik revolution. It has existed as long as there has been a Russian state. Russia has never been a part of Europe: never belonged to European civilisation, always been a world of her own. The Russians regard Europe as a restless, irreligious peninsula; all they know of it is that within little more than a hundred years there have come from it five invasions of the Russian continent: Napoleon's invasion of 1812, the Anglo-French invasion of 1854 (which we call the Crimean war), the German invasion of 1914 and following years, the Anglo-French invasion of 1918 to 1920 (which we call intervention if we admit it at all) and Hitler's invasion of 1941 the most dreadful of all. It is a formidable catalogue, if you look at it from the Russian side."

PATHAN MONEY LENDING

This country is quite familiar with that most usurious and offensive type of money lending associated with the Pathans, writes Mr Prem Sinha in the *Eastern Economist*. For quite a long time they have continued to prey on sections of urban society in this country, unchecked by any law or convention. They have developed their system almost to a fine art.

What are the causes of the Pathan doing so much lucrative money lending business in this country? 'The reason is that unlike the urban shroff or the village moneylender he is prepared to lend without mortgage or security of any kind. The local money lenders have another advantage over him and that is they have full knowledge of the character and resources of the parties to whom they lend money and in many cases can exercise considerable control over these resources. The village moneylender controls even the personal affairs of the peasants. The Pathan deals with a mobile urban society with which he has hardly any social or personal contact. Naturally quite a large number of persons are attracted to begin with to the free easy way in which he lends money without any enquiry into a man's assets, character or connections. The local banker asks awkward questions and poses superiority over the borrower. The Pathan to begin with does nothing of that sort. He is the promptest lender and asks no awkward questions. In fact nobody need know about the transactions of any party with the Pathans until the time of payment comes, when of course he would use his usual methods of harassment.'

There is some mystery about the rate of

interest that the Pathan charges. "It is reputed to range anywhere between 100 and 125 per cent or as they call it 2 annas per rupee per month. Besides they also charge Rs 10 as their commission. The interest is taken in advance every month. But the commission is taken at the time of lending. The net cash a man brings home from a loan of Rs 100 comes to Rs 100 minus Rs 12.80 interest, minus Rs 10 commission, minus Re 0.80 stamps, etc. which is equal to Rs 77.'

THE END OF AN EPOCH

September 2, 1946 is a memorable date in more ways than one, and should not be permitted to recede from its primacy in the history of India's long drawn out War of Independence, says Dr Syed Hossain in the *Bombay-Chronicle*, writing on the formation of the new Interim Government at the Centre.

The Ghadar of 1857, he adds, was the last great organised and militant attempt of the Indian people—Hindus and Muslims—to throw off an alien yoke which had fastened itself upon them, and was beginning to crush their soul and sap their basic vitality. 'The uprising failed, by reason of internal treachery rather than British bravery, and the British proceeded to consolidate their conquest. This process necessitated the initial step of exterminating the elite of Indian leadership, and the bulk of the intelligentsia.'

Referring to the suppression of the mutiny, Sir Georg Otto Trevelyan, the British historian, says "The British soldiers in India had killed more of the Indian people in a single year than the

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missionaries had converted in a century " To be more specific, according to the London *Spectator* "We took at least one hundred thousand Indian lives in the Mutiny" It has further been computed that at least 75 per cent of them were Muslim lives In the total reckoning of India's struggle for deliverance from the British, that fact should not be overlooked It should be balanced against the comparative inaction of Muslims, under a misguided leadership, in the most recent phase of the national struggle against the British

After 1857, came 1885—marking the renewal of the old struggle, inevitably constitutional now under the ironegis of the new regime The sequel to 1885 is 1946 W C Bonnerjee should be remembered to day bracketed with Jawaharlal Nehru

Yes, to day marks the end of an epoch Let it also be the beginning of Indian national regegeration, politically, economically, socially and spiritually The key to such regeneration must be unity We must somehow undo the grievous mischief of disunity which the British policy of divide and rule has driven like a dagger into our vitals Lord Elphinstone said in 1839 "Divide et impera is the old Roman motto and it should be ours" The second Viceroy of India Lord Elgin, left on record this piece of advice for his successors "Keep the Hindus and Muslims divided"

It is no wonder, declares Dr Syed Hussain that exposed to such a policy for two generations—with all its intensive indoctrination and external manipulation—the Indian people to day are where they are

But must we go on being divided?

THE OBJECT OF PRAYER

While it is true that any prayer is better than no prayer at all, for the reason that if the finite looks to the infinite some good must result, yet prayer that is psychologically correct is more effectual than prayer that is psychologically incorrect, writes the *Vedanta Kesari* "Prayer should not be a recital of one's woes or a dwelling upon one's troubles, difficulties, weaknesses, sorrows, sufferings and failures In praying we have to remember that we do not have to plead for God to alter or for life to be made easier for us, what is required is that we should be brought into accord with the Eternal order, with the cosmic pattern We live in an orderly universe, and all disorder in our life is due to the fact that inwardly, we are not in accord or correspondence with the perfect order which is the unchanging reality The object of prayer is the bringing of our mind into correspondence with the Infinite and Perfect mind, and our thoughts into harmony with the thoughts of the creator of the universe of perfect order"

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

THE CONSTITUTION MAKING BODY FOR INDIA
By Prof K K Bhattacharya [New Horizon,
September 1946]

THE SOUTH INDIAN MEGALITHIC TOMBS By
P Joseph [New Review September 1946]

LABOUR IN INDIA By S A Samad [Perspective
July 1946]

INTER ASIAN RELATIONS CONFERENCE [The Eastern
Economist September 1946]

THE VILLAGE CRAFTSMAN

We welcome the new illustrated Madras monthly—*Sripr*—devoted to art and industries. The first number contains articles on painting and sculpture and architecture which must interest lay readers as well. The full page plates and illustrations by different artists add to the attractions of a journal the literary contents of which afford interesting reading. Dr Ananda Coomaraswamy in his article on the village craftsman shows how the Indian craftsman lives close to the soil. He says that the presence of the craftsmen in the midst of a simple agricultural society made possible the self contained life of the community so striking a feature of the Indian village.

Living in a society organised on the basis of personal relations and duties which descended in each family from generation to generation instead of belonging to a society founded on contract and competition their payment was provided for in various ways of which money payment was the least important and most unusual. The amount of money in circulation in the villages was indeed almost negligible barter and personal service taking the place of money payments. Wealth was hoarded if at all rather in the form of jewellery than of money. Prosperity consisted in having several years' provisions of grain in one's granary. Anything of the nature of a shop or store was unknown.

The payment of craftsmen was either a payment in kind or a grant of land besides perquisites on special occasions. For their customary services the craftsmen

were repaid at harvest time, receiving a fixed proportion of sheaves of grain from the crop collected on the threshing floor, or they might be given a share of the communal land. In the last case, it followed that every man was a cultivator and directly dependent on the land for his subsistence whether he were a husbandman a goldsmith or a washerman by caste.

PROBLEMS OF TRANSITION PERIOD

Pleading for a system of Political Liaison Officers during the transition period in India Major Wyatt Labour M P, writing in the *New Statesman and Nation*, says

'In this transition time we are going back to something like the early days of John Company. The methods of the Cabinet Mission were a foretaste of this reversion. It did not seek to dictate or to insist. It attempted to guide and to help and it used persuasion not coercion. It could only do this by keeping constant contact with various leaders and sounding opinion at all levels. For the first time the Indian leaders found themselves able to represent their views continually and informally to British authority. By this means suspicions were removed and friendly relations established. If the growing pains of the Constituent Assembly are to be eased it is essential that a similar process should continue. Time and tradition as much on the Indian side as on the British are in league against the capacity of the present set up accomplishing it.

What is needed is a system of Political Liaison Officers between the British and the Indians to assist in becoming more Ministers resident and less officials, who are of necessity out of touch with political thought. Major Wyatt adds that these liaison officers are also needed to help Indians bring home to the British the realities of their own internal problems.

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

HYDERABAD REFORMS

An appeal to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru President of the Indian National Congress and the All India States Peoples' Conference and leaders of other political parties in the country to support the Satyagraha undertaken by the Hindus of Hyderabad State, is made by Pandit Anandpriyaji Working President of the All India States Hindu Mahasabha

Pandit Anandpriyaji points out that the new reforms in Hyderabad are calculated to reduce the Hindu majority to a power less minority and proselytise the Hindus. He suggests the observance of the Hyderabad Day to voice the country's protest against the reforms

MUSLIM ORGANISATION'S DECISION

The General Council of the Central Ittihadul Muslim, after a prolonged discussion rejected the Constitutional Reforms recently announced by the Government. The Council, however, decided to contest elections under the new Reforms and enter the Legislature with the object of asserting the political status of Muslims and demanding separate electorates

The resolution adopted by the Council stated that the Reforms were baneful to the interests of the Muslims and alleged that the Government had gone back on the pledges given to them in respect of safeguards for their community

HYDERABAD ENQUIRY COMMISSION

The Commission set up by the Hyderabad Government to enquire into the alleged atrocities in the villages of Aknoot and Machridipalli started examining witnesses on September 16

Mysore

CHOICE OF MYSORE DELEGATION

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Dewan of Mysore, at a Press Conference at Bangalore stated that the Mysore Delegation to the Constituent Assembly would consist of seven members including the Dewan, who had been asked by H. H. the Maharaja to lead it

Expressing the view that the majority of the Delegation should be non officials the Dewan stated that the method of selecting its personnel was under consideration. Public opinion as represented in the Legislature and outside would be consulted in the matter of choosing the non official members. Irrespective of any differences of opinion in the internal administration, the Mysore Delegation, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar stressed, should speak with one voice. He did not mean that the Dewan's view should prevail but he wanted a harmonious group to safeguard Mysore's interests

Sir A. R. Mudaliar appealed to the Press for co operation and said that the Mysore administration would like to have the closest relationship with the Press in Mysore and outside

MYSORE GOVT & NPC

The Government of Mysore have decided to contribute Rs 2000 annually to the National Planning Committee

The Commissioner of Economic Development and Planning in Mysore will attend the meetings of the Committee representing the State

Baroda

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY & BARODA

An apprehension that many Indian States might not participate in the Constitution making Body if the British Indian Negotiating Committee for the Constituent Assembly demanded that all the States representatives should be elected was expressed by Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter Dewan of Baroda discussing States representation on the Constitutional Body in an interview to the Associated Press of India.

Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter thought that the most feasible arrangement would be to have 50 per cent elected and 50 per cent nominated representation of States. The Dewan added that the British Indian Negotiating Committee should forward such terms that would not drive the Indian States from the Constitution making Body.

Pointing out that all but 17 States all over India have no Legislature the Dewan explained the problem as it affected Baroda and said that the 29 lakhs of people of Baroda State were properly represented in the Baroda Assembly and as such two representatives could be sent to the Constitutional Body by the Legislature. But about seven lakhs of people of Kathiawar States recently attached to Baroda were not represented in the Legislature. No electoral bodies existed in this area but the seven lakhs could not go unrepresented. Here one representative should be nominated.

BARODA ON THE AIR

Baroda will be on the air from January 1947 when a medium wave radio station will begin functioning. Test broadcasts are being made at present.

Travancore

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR TRAVANCORE

The claim that the all round progress made by Travancore during the last decade had no parallel anywhere in India and that the only country with which Travancore could be compared in this respect was the USSR was made by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore, in the course of his address to a joint session of both houses of the Travancore Legislature on the Budget for 1122 M E which was presented by the Financial Secretary.

The following are the budget figures at a glance—Revenue for 1122 M E, 820.12 lakhs. Expenditure, 719.67. Surplus 100.46.

It has been decided that the total anticipated surplus of more than one crore of rupees will be used for the improvement of villages.

Cochin

COCHIN RULERS ANNOUNCEMENT

H H the Maharajah of Cochin announced on August 17, his decision to transfer Education, Public Works, Land Revenue, Excise, Industries (Reserved portion), Publicity, Forests, Food and Textile Control and Income Tax departments which are at present administered by the Dewan to Ministerial control.

Together with Medicine, Public Health, Panchayat, Rural Uplift, Co-operation and a number of other subjects this will bring under popular control all Government subjects except Finance, Law and Order and a few other subjects which however will continue to be the responsibility of the Dewan.

This decision was announced by His Highness in a message to the Cochin Legislative Council.

Bikaner**BIKANER RULERS PROCLAMATION**

In a proclamation issued on 31st August His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner announced that the present Legislative Assembly would be reconstituted on a more popular basis with as little delay as possible the Legislature would be elected on a wide and liberal franchise a Constitution Act would be promulgated providing for the automatic attainment of Responsible Government by the people of the State

Under the transitional arrangements not less than half the number of members of the Maharaja's Executive Council would be appointed from among the elected members of the Legislature The interim arrangement should not extend beyond period of three years of the inauguration of the Union of India whichever is earlier

His Highness announced the appointment of a Constitution Committee and a Franchise and Constituencies Committee and directed that the Committees should complete their work and the draft Constitution should be submitted to His Highness by March 1947 The new Legislature should be constituted and the Interim Government commence to function from not later than November 1947

Kashmir**SHEIKH ABDULLAH SENTENCED**

Sheikh Mohd Abdullah President of the Kashmir National Conference has been sentenced to three years simple imprisonment on each of the three counts under Section 124 A of the Ranbhur Penal Code (Sedition charge corresponding to Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code)

The sentences are to run concurrently Sheikh Abdullah was also ordered to pay a fine of Rs 1500

Sheikh Abdullah has been removed to Jammu province following the pronouncement of judgment

Sheikh Abdullah was arrested on May 20 in connection with three alleged seditious speeches in furtherance of the 'Quit Kashmir Movement' said to be directed against the Maharaja of Kashmir

Pandit Nehru has sent the following telegram to Shri Jialal Kilam Sheikh Abdullah's attorney in reply to his telegram informing Pandit Nehru of Sheikh Abdullah's conviction and seeking advice

'Your telegram Certainly prefer appeal immediately and find out where Sheikh Saheb is kept now and inform me Convey my greetings to Begum Abdullah and tell her not to worry

General**NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE PERSONNEL**

The States Negotiating Committee, which will negotiate on behalf of Indian States matters relating to States' representation in the Constituent Assembly will consist of nine members namely the Nawab of Bhopal, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes the Maharaja of Patiala Pro Chancellor the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar the Maharaja of Dungarpur, Sir Muza Ismail President of the Nizam's Executive Council Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar Dewan of Mysore Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar Dewan of Travancore Sir Sultan Ahmed Constitutional Adviser to the Chancellor and Sardar K. M. Panikkar Prime Minister of Bikaner Mir Maqbool Mahmud will act as Secretary

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

PANDIT NEHRUS ADVICE TO S A INDIANS

'It will be fatal for the Indians in South Africa to adopt violent methods,' Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Vice President in India's Interim Government says in a statement

The issue raised in South Africa affects all Asiatics and also Africans and co operation between Indians there and the Africans is necessary, he adds

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru says 'I am informed by a friend in Durban that my name has been freely used there by some people in support of a violent struggle in place of the present non violent campaign being carried on in South Africa and that the association of Africans and others for this violent struggle is being sought

"I am surprised to learn this because I am quite clear that it will be fatal for the Indians in South Africa to adopt violent methods in their struggle. If the non violent method is desirable in India, it is far more necessary in South Africa in the conditions prevailing there. I have often asked Indians in South Africa to co-operate with the Africans there and I hope they will do so. The issue raised in South Africa has become something much more than simply an Indian issue. It is an issue which affects all Asians and, of course, all Africans. Therefore this co operation is necessary between all those affected. But that co operation can only be effective and succeed on the basis of peaceful methods and it would be folly to indulge in violence.'

East Africa

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR E AFRICA

The opinion that India should have a seat on the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations Organisation was one of the wide range of subjects covered in the resolutions passed by the East African Indian National Congress which closed at Mombasa Kenya, on Sept 15

Other subjects included opposition to the proposed East African Immigration Bill, an appeal to the Government of India to appoint a High Commissioner to East African territories and appreciation of the sacrifices Indians are making in East Africa to uphold the honour, self respect and economic and political rights of Indians. It was resolved to open immediately a fund to aid the passive resistance movement in South Africa

* DELEGATION TO EAST AFRICA

An Indian delegation consisting of Raja Sir Maharaj Singh and two others of the Commonwealth Relations Department of the India Government have arrived at Dar es Salaam by air to gain first hand information on the effects of the proposed immigration restrictions in East Africa

Sir Maharaj Singh, Leader of the delegation in a statement on the eve of the return of the delegation to India said that the delegation had secured valuable information to report to the Government of India

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CALCUTTA RIOTS ENQUIRY

The terms of reference of the Commission of Enquiry under the presidentship of the Chief Justice of India Sir Patrick Spens, will be as follows according to a *communiqué* published on September 11

"To enquire into the causes and the courses, of the disturbances in Calcutta between Friday, August 16 and Tuesday August 20 and into the measures taken to deal with them and to submit to the Government of Bengal a report of their findings"

The *communiqué* says that the President of the Commission will have full discretion to decide the procedure to be followed in the conduct of the enquiry and, in particular, whether the evidence or any of it will be heard in public or in *camera*

A notice has been issued to the public by Mr Saddler Secretary of the Spens Enquiry Commission on the Calcutta Riots inviting people with personal knowledge of events to send written statements of any evidence which they may desire to give

The notice also makes it clear that the Commission of Enquiry are not concerned with the question of compensation

The other two members of the Commission are Mr Somayya, Retired Judge of the Madras High Court and Sir Khwaja Muhammad Noor, Chairman of the Railway Rates Advisory Committee and retired Judge of the Patna High Court

CONGRESS AND INTERIM GOVT.

The A I C C meeting at Delhi on September 23 endorsed by an overwhelming vote the decision of the Congress leaders to form an Interim Government Being feeble and numerically almost negligible, only 12 voted against the resolution

Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad moved the resolution ratifying the Congress acceptance of the Interim Government The resolution read "The All India Congress Committee having considered the direction of the Working Committee to the President to accept the invitation of the Viceroy to form an Interim National Government, approve of this direction and ratify the subsequent steps taken thereunder, resulting in the formation of the Interim Government"

Dr Pattabhi Sitaramayya, seconding the resolution, said that the Congress struggle could not go on endlessly After every struggle there was always a pause and peace If there was any doubt or if the terms of a peace settlement were not properly fulfilled then there was again conflict All the same there could not be an everlasting struggle The Interim Government he said, was like a bridge India's goal was beyond the bridge and they had to cross the bridge before reaching the destination of freedom Participation in the Interim Government was to hasten the achievement of Freedom

After prolonged debate the A I C C also passed by a large majority Pandit Pant's resolution permitting members of the Interim Government to be members of the Congress Working Committee

Utterances of the Day

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN ON GANDHIJI

The role that Mahatma Gandhi has played in the present epoch, marking the resurrection of the Indian nation and its transition from a state of serfdom to one of freedom will be remembered in the pages of history by later generations of Indians with pride and reverence said Sir S Radhakrishnan Vice Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University unveiling a full size bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Karachi on September 14

Presented to the city by the Karachi Indian Merchants' Association the statue is in the heart of the city, in front of the Chief Court and the Secretariat

"It is Gandhiji who by his consecrated will and determined non violent resistance has enabled us to pass from the condition of subjection to freedom, without long drawn conflict with all its aftermath of hatred and bitterness," said Sir S Radhakrishnan. "We have in Gandhiji the synthesis of saintliness and revolutionary fervour and he looks upon the whole world as his hindred. Though he has done a great deal to revive our country and reveal our moral and spiritual resources history will accord that his greatest service is in having bequeathed to humanity the great instrument of non violence by which national and international disputes could be easily solved. It is in the substitution, of the method of love to method of violence that the greatest contribution of Gandhiji lies."

Proceeding Sir Radhakrishnan said

"If the British Government to day offers its independence it is to no small extent due to the determined resistance of the Indian people. War has given us impetus. World opinion has demanded the liquidation of imperialism and Britain too has realised that it is impossible to carry on the old line in this country. Her act is not one of generosity but an adequate response to the necessities of the case. That is all that Britain has done. It has been the greatest triumph for Gandhiji and his principle of non violence."

PANDIT NEHRU'S BROADCAST

In his first broadcast on September 7, as Vice President of the Interim Government, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru outlined the future policy of free India and said:

The world, in spite of its rivalries and hatred and inner conflicts moves inevitably towards closer co-operation and the building up of a world common wealth. It is for this one world that free India will work—world in which there is free co operation of free peoples and no class or group exploits another

Pandit Nehru added

The Interim Government is only a stepping stone to the full independence of India. We are yet on the march and the goal has still to be reached. There are many difficulties and obstacles in the way and our journey's end may not be so near as people thought.

We shall look, he said, speaking on domestic policy,

to the common and forgotten man in India and seek to bring him relief and raise his standard of living. We shall continue our fight against untouchability and other forms of otherwise backward. Today millions lack food, clothing and houses and many are on the verge of starvation.

Speaking on Calcutta riots he said

Our hearts were heavy also with the terrible tragedy of Calcutta because of the insensate strife of brother against brother. The freedom we had envisaged and for which we had laboured through generations was for all the people of India and not for one group or class or the followers of one religion.

There has been much heated argument about Sections and Groupings in the Constituent Assembly. Said Pandit Nehru

I would like to make it clear on behalf of my colleagues and myself, that we do not look upon the Constituent Assembly as an arena for conflict or for the forcible imposition of one view point over another.

India is on the move and the old order passes. The initiative comes to our people now and we shall make the history of our choice. Let us all join in this mighty task and make India the pride of our heart, great among nations foremost in the acts of peace and progress.

THE LEAGUE POLICY

Chowdry Akbar Khan Muslim President of the London Indian Workers Association denounces the Muslim League as hypocrites and the Hindu caste system as causing immense harm to India, in a pamphlet entitled 'And now post mortem'

He says 'The Muslim League has unfortunately adopted a mistaken discredited policy and Mr Jinnah is the standard bearer of reaction The League leader wants to keep the Pakistan baby in the cradle of British imperialism and to bring degradation upon his motherland Pakistan comprising purely of Muslim inhabited areas could not survive six months trial League Muslims are not true Muslims They are hypocrites They work the passions of Muslims to a high pitch to gain their selfish ends Once Indian Muslims used to dream of Turkey and Afghanistan coming to free them from the alien yoke Now they are furtively talking of Russia

'Islam is in danger' is a slogan coined by degenerate Muslim Leaguers They have adopted an inferiority complex and seem beyond redemption Frustrated and disappointed the League is blurring out irresponsible pronouncements and loose talks devoid of any sense The League is deliberately misleading the ignorant Muslim masses for which it will have to accept responsibility and give account It knows no sane politics but disruptive policy The Leaguers are playing with fire

The Congress is Socialist The League is dehard Conservative The Congress is progressive The League is reactionary The Congress appeals to the people The League to Mr Churchill

'PARSIS AND THE CONGRESS'

An emphatic repudiation of Mr Jinnah's statement that the Parsis are certainly not with the Congress has been made by Mr Homi Talyarkhan, President of the United Parsi Association in a statement

The United Parsi Association he says most emphatically repudiate Mr Jinnah's statement that the Parsis are certainly not with the Congress and appeals to all other Parsi bodies to follow suit The Association asserts that the Parsi community whatever its differences with the Congress may have been is certainly not against the national organisation

MEMBERSHIP OF CONGRESS

There will be no mass enrolment of members for the Indian National Congress from next year and all the forty crore inhabitants of India irrespective of caste and community will henceforth be regarded as ordinary Congress members This is the main suggestion it is learnt of the Congress Constitution Sub Committee

According to the recommendations of the Sub Committee only active Congress members will henceforth be on the Congress register and have the right to vote in the election of delegates and other office bearers of the Congress Only those who do day to day work for the Congress either in the constructive or parliamentary sphere would be regarded as active members

HOME GUARDS FOR U P.

Among its various schemes to cope with communal outbursts the Congress Ministry in the United Provinces has a definite proposal to raise a militia to be named 'Home Guards' The new organisation to which Indian National Army men will be eligible will be equipped with modern arms The highest officer of the Home Guards will enjoy wide powers and will be responsible to the Ministry

Educational

SIR SHAFAT'S PLAN

Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, member of the Cabinet in charge of the Departments of Education and Health said at a meeting of officers of the Department of Education at New Delhi on September 12 that he had assumed charge of portfolios which concerned both the body and the mind of the citizens of India

Sir Shafaat emphasised that it was the lot of the long neglected common man which would be his main object and he hoped that it would be never forgotten that it was for peoples belonging to one's own flesh and blood that one was working

Referring in particular to question of education Sir Shafaat called attention to the pioneer and noteworthy work done by the Central Advisory Board of Education which he described as the most representative educational body in the country. He paid a tribute to Sir John Sargeant and his colleagues and said that the report of the Central Advisory Board popularly known as the Sargeant Plan could well be taken as a starting point. India's urgent needs he said was for a body of technicians and scientists who would make the mother country economically self sufficient. Fundamental research must be encouraged in every possible manner. Neither should any effort be spared to establish technological institutes which Sir Shafaat hopes would be the pride of Asia. And at the same time universal compulsory basic education should be taken in hand and the foundation of a national system of education must be firmly laid without any further delay.

NAGPUR UNIVERSITY TO HONOUR GANDHIJI

The Executive Council of the Nagpur University at a special meeting on September 14, resolved to confer the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters on Mahatma Gandhi. It was decided to hold a special Convocation of Sewagram to 'suit' Gandhiji's convenience, should he express his inability to come to Nagpur.

The Council further instructed Dr S M Hasan Minister for Health, and Mr S. N Agarwal to meet Mahatma Gandhi and request him to accept the honour.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF SPINNING

Writing in the *Khadi Jagat*, the monthly organ of the All India Spinners' Association Mahatma Gandhi says 'If all Congress offices and other institutions of this type impart technical education regarding Khadi from beginning to end, then the condition of villages will be overhauled and Swaraj will be achieved with the help of the public. Truly speaking, the complete education of man is in spinning.'

BENARES DEGREE FOR NEHRU

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr Tai Chi Tao Chinese statesman and Buddhist scholar will receive the honorary degree of D Litt at the next Convocation of the Benares Hindu University which will be held on December 15, 1946. Both of them have accepted the invitation of the Vice Chancellor of the University to receive the honorary degree in Benares.

BURMA GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO NEHRU'S APPEAL

On representations made by Pandit Nehru, the Burma Government have withdrawn the cases against Mr Manilal Doshi former officer of the Azad Hind Government and five members of the Netaji Fund Committee who were being tried on charges of alleged dacoity and extortion during the Japanese occupation of Burma.

These cases aroused great public interest and the Congress President recently deputed Mr Sarat Chandra Bose to Burma where he made representations to the Home Member Mr Doshi is leaving for Bombay shortly.

HINDU SABHAS DEMAND

The Working Committee of the All India Hindu Mahasabha which concluded its two day session in Calcutta on September 23 in a four hundred word resolution expressed the view that the Muslim League should be declared an illegal body and should be dealt with as such if it would still persist in its attempt to indulge in unconstitutional and illegal activities.

SEPARATION OF THE JUDICIARY

The Madras Committee for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive held a brief sitting and discussed its further procedure. The examination of witnesses has been practically finished and the Committee's Secretariat is now engaged in compiling and classifying the opinions oral and written submitted to it.

MR VERMA AS CHIEF JUSTICE

His Majesty the King has approved the appointment of the Hon Mr Justice Kamalakanta Verma a Judge of the Allahabad High Court to be Chief Justice of that High Court upon the retirement of the Hon Sir Iqbal Ahmad says a communique.

SAGOTRA MARRIAGES

Mr A Kaleswara Rao, M.L.A., has given notice of a Bill in the Madras Legislative Assembly to permit marriages between Hindus of the same gothra or common pravara, in the Province of Madras.

The operative Clause 4 of the Bill runs "Notwithstanding any rule or law or custom or usage to the contrary, no marriage solemnised after the commencement of this Act shall be invalid merely by reason that the parties to it belonged to the same gothra or had a common pravara at the time of such solemnisation.

Explaining the aims of the Bill, Mr Kaleswara Rao says in the statement of objects and reasons. The prohibition against the marriage of persons having a common gothra or pravara does not apply to the great body of the Hindu society called Sudras. It is stated by the learned author of 'Hindu Law and Usage', Mr S. Srinivasa Iyengar, that as Kshatriyas and Vysias do not possess either a gothra or a pravara they take the gothra or a pravara of the purohit. As this is a most unnatural and unreasonable thing prohibition does not exist in practice among the persons of these two castes. It is only among Brahmins that this prohibition exists. The same learned author has written that this prohibition was not well established in early ages. So it is not the like Sapinda marriage prohibition which applies to the whole Hindu Society. People of the same gothra or pravara have generally no relationship whatever and often belong to different sub castes. This prohibition does not exist in the Special Marriages Act.

Insurance

INSURANCE AND INVESTMENT

Presiding over the thirty ninth Ordinary General Meeting of the National Insurance Company at Calcutta Mr G K Khemka observed in connection with the proposed bill pending before the legislature that further restrictions by Government will affect life offices adversely

The year 1945 saw the end of the war and with the termination of hostilities new problems arose—no less complicated than what we faced during the war We are now passing the transition stage from war to peace, we are busy on post war planning for industrial expansion of this country We realise that new technique will have to be adopted and new methods introduced for the success of our Industrial ventures Similarly, in the field of Insurance I submit certain changes will have to be made in our general policy in order to keep pace with the time

Already there is a Bill pending before the Legislature, various measures contemplated therein are intended to restrict the procurement cost that is to say, to keep overall expenses within certain limits and furthermore to restrict the scope of investments So far as the proposal for reduction in expenses is concerned, I agree it will be a healthy thing of course I on my part would like least intervention by the Government in this matter, in fact, Government intervention should be avoided as far as possible and it should be left to the Insurers themselves but as regards narrowing down the scope of investments the choice is already limited to day and if further restrictions are imposed I feel it will decisively handicap the honest earning capacities of Life Offices

THIRD PARTY INSURANCE

A draft Bill for providing reciprocity with the Indian States in the matter of the compulsory third party Insurance of motor vehicles was published in the Government of India Gazette of August 24, 1946 and has been circulated for comments to Associations and other interested bodies through Provincial Governments, says a Press Note

The draft is tentative and will be modified, if necessary in the light of the comments received through Provincial Governments

Chapter VIII of the Motor Vehicles Act, which came into force on July 1 and which is sought to be amended does not at present contain any provision for such reciprocity and if no such provision were made when the States enacted their legislation, motorists would be required to obtain separate insurance policies for many of the States visited or traversed

INSURANCE AGENTS REQUEST TO GOVERNMENT

At a general body meeting of the Tamil Nad Insurance Agents' Association, Trichy on July 19 Mr S Thangavelu Pillai presiding resolutions were passed felicitating Mr L S Vaidyanathan on his nomination to the Central Legislative Assembly requesting the Interim Government to retain the maximum existing rates of agents' commission for both life and other insurances and deploring the recommendations of the Sir Cowayjee Jehangir Committee to further reduce the rates of commission to agents The Association suggested that no death duty should be levied on monies from insurance that are payable to assignees on the death of the assured

CHETTUR MISSION REPORT

"There is no need for pessimism with regard to the revival and development of our trade with China. In spite of domestic difficulties, there is a wide range of commodities which India can supply to China and which the latter country will need." Thus observes the Report of the Trade Mission to China, which was sent to that country by the Commerce Department in February 1946 under the leadership of Mr K K Chettur, Joint Secretary of the Department to examine the possibility of the renewal of export business, mainly cotton and tobacco, from India to China, and the resumption and development of trade between the two countries.

Regarding trade prospects the Report says

There is no need for pessimism with regard to the revival and development of our trade with China. While it is correct that difficulties exist and that inflation is rife that there are shortages of goods and difficulties with regard to exchange and communications it will not be long before the situation is brought under control in view of the measures taken by the Chinese Government for the rehabilitation of the country's economy. Though the volume of trade in the earlier stages may, as a result, not be large this will be a temporary phase as an era of industrial and commercial prosperity awaits China.

In spite of domestic difficulties there is a wide range of commodities which India can supply to China and which the latter country will need and though inflationism may affect the nature of the supplies available for export the quantum of the trade will not be adversely affected.

One of the possible lines of development of China's economy on the other hand is likely to lead to the reduction of trade with that country as she will continue to require raw materials from this country and also consumer goods which we can conveniently spare for her.

There is also the point that Germany and Japan have for the time being been eliminated from the Chinese market and that India can to a certain extent meet this demand particularly the demand formerly met from Japan with whose goods ours are more easily comparable.

FUTURE OF TRADE CONTROL

"It is our belief that a healthy and rapid extension of Indian resources and a rise in the standard of living of the Indian people can only be brought about by a system of planned development, which must include a planned regulation of external trade." declared Mr C H Bhabha in his address to the Trade Policy Committee. As the first official statement on the Interim Government's objectives in the economic sphere, this declaration will be widely welcomed. Mr Bhabha affirmed the new Government's intention to participate fully in all international conferences. India, as the Commerce Member pointed out, is uniquely fitted to play in these conferences the role of champion of the backward and undeveloped countries.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT LOANS

A press communique issued by the Manager of the Reserve Bank, Bombay, says

"The provincial Government loans of the United Provinces and Madras remained open till the close of the day on Sept 2, 1946. The United Provinces loan was oversubscribed. Subscriptions for this loan upto and including Rs 5000 will be allotted in full and applications for amounts over Rs 5000 will receive allotment at 90 per cent subject to a minimum allotment of Rs 5000.

The Madras loan was fully subscribed after the transfer of options from the United Provinces loan and a call on the underwriters for the balance not covered by public subscriptions.

Women's Page

MILITARY ACADEMY FOR WOMEN

A Military Academy to be named after Mr Subhas Chandra Bose is to be started at the Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya (women's university) as a memorial to the Rani of Jhansi Regiment to give military and physical training to women students.

Mrs Sushila Pandit M L A Baroda and principal of the Vidyalaya says the scheme will cost Rs 500,000 and has appealed for donations.

Mr Narayanlal Pansilal and Mr Nanjibhai Mehta have donated Rs 1,00,000 each for the scheme.

WOMEN FOR BRITISH SHIPS

For the first time in British mercantile history British girls are to be allowed to sign on as members of ships' crews. Several big British liner and tramp companies are planning to take women aboard as cooks and on the catering staff. In some of new cargo ships now being built separate quarters are being constructed for 10 or 12 women members of the crew.

Ex-Wrens who have had experience in this type of work will be given priority. It is started. The new 10,000 ton motor ship La Cordillera is expected to be the first British cargo vessel to carry women personnel.

NEW COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Replying to Mr C P Ramaswami Reddiar in the Madras Legislative Council, the Minister of Education said that Mr V L Ethiraj had promised a donation for a women's college in Madras and had deposited Rs 1,80,000 with the Madras University. As soon as necessary buildings were available the college would be started. Mr Ethiraj had approached the Government who thought that the college could be started next year. The contribution promised by Mr Ethiraj was Rs 10 lakhs.

MUSOLINI'S DAUGHTER

'I am still a fascist—Why not? But politics are a filthy game and I have finished with them for ever.'

This was the comment of Countess Edda Ciano, 38-year-old daughter of Mussolini, when she was released on July 12 under the Italian Government's amnesty after spending a year on the prison island of Lipari.

Wearing a cheap plain frock and no stockings and now almost penniless, Edda went shopping on foot and on buses. During her father's regime she was described as the best-dressed woman in Rome's fascist society.

Stating that she approved of the theft of Mussolini's body from its unnamed Milan grave, she added 'Naturally I do not know who took it, but I think they were right. Any man deserves a better grave than the one they gave him.'

Edda is now writing her memoirs but she declared 'My soul and sorrows are not for sale,' she added. 'After staying in Rome a few days to settle legal claims for something to live on from my husband's estates, I am leaving to start a new career of bringing up my three children to do anything they like except meddle in politics. In any case the world is rather tired of the Mussolinis, don't you think?'

DR MADURAM

Dr (Miss) E. Maduram, Superintendent Government Victoria Caste and Goshala Hospital, Madras, has been renominated by the Government of Madras as a member of the Madras Nurses and Midwives Council for a period of three years with effect from October 3.

MR KHER ON POWER OF THE PRESS

Mr B G Kher Premier of Bombay, addressing the members of the Poona Journalists Association said that freedom of the Press was valuable and the Press must be protected at all costs. During the autocratic regimes of Kings he said, they required jesters who only showered praise but with the progress of democracy, as the symbol of free opinion the Press became the powerful Fourth State.

Mr Kher further said that in India, Tilak and other pioneers of Indian journalism started their papers with the object of serving and educating and awakening the people and that noble ideal was still kept up by Mahatma Gandhi. But as a whole Indian journalism had now become a profession. He welcomed the growth of journalists organisations and hoped that along with economic betterment of journalists, they would lay down the code of professional conduct.

KALIDAS MEMORIAL SOCIETY

An appeal for funds has been issued by Dr T J Kedar, Lt Col W R Purank and others on behalf of the Kalidasa Memorial Society, formed in 1943 with a view to perpetuating the memory of India's great poet. The Society proposes to erect in the first instance a Memorial Pillar and a Rest House on the hill top at Ramtek where or near which according to competent authorities, Kalidasa must have stayed for some time. It is also intended to establish near the Memorial Pillar, a Research Institute with an up-to-date library.

LESSONS FROM THE EPICS

'A study of the two great epics—Ramayana and Mahabharata—apart from revealing spiritual and moral lessons will emphasise the customs manners ideals and standards of life prevalent in India during those ages. The most important lesson that we should learn from them is that we must understand what is ahead of us. We must make life more energetic always remember what we acquire and adopt right principles of conduct observed Mr Justice N Chandrasekhara Iyer the Madras Presidency College Sanskrit Association.

AMERY RESUMES ANOTHER DIRECTORSHIP

Mr L S Amery, now 71 has returned from Switzerland where he lectured on India for the British Foreign Office. He has also returned to the board of directors of Marks and Spencers, the big multiple store company. He resigned from the board when he became Secretary for India in 1940 giving up directors fees worth more than his salary as a Cabinet Minister. Mr Amery re-joined the board of Good year Tyres last year.

INDIAN DELEGATION TO U S A

Sir S Radhakrishnan Vice Chancellor, Benares University will lead the Indian delegation to the United Nations economic, social and cultural conference which meets in New York this month.

Other members of the delegation are understood to be Dr Fakir Hussein and Rajkumar Amrit Kaur.

GANDHI JAYANTI

Mahatma Gandhi will be presented with a purse of Rs 780 000 and an equal number of banks of yarn by the All India Spinners Association U P Branch on the occasion of his seventy eighth birthday. He has consented to spend 75 per cent of the money in the district from which it is collected.

COL NIRANJAN SINGH GILL

Col Niranjan Singh President of the Praonjhi Panthic Board has resigned from the presidentship on grounds that his services are no longer of 'absolute necessity' and that after four years of imprisonment he needed rest. The resignation was accepted at a meeting of the board presided over by Col Gill himself.

MR P KODANDA RAO

Mr P Kodanda Rao Servants of India Society has been invited by the Government of India to act as Adviser to the Government of India Delegate to the Permanent Migration Committee of the International Labour Conference in Montreal, Canada.

ECZEMA CAUSED BY WORRY

To blush with shame go livid with fear whiten with anger or sweat with anxiety are emotional cliches long used by novelists. Now three doctors have listed a new one in the *British Medical Journal* to itch with worry.

The doctors say that there are three different types of itches.

One is the result of a straightforward skin disease another can be stimulated by such drugs as cocaine and the third is the emotional itch.

Some patients scratch themselves when worried. Many people had eczema following financial worries. One man a worrying and eczematous type was cured of his eczema and mental troubles when he learnt that his business and domestic problems had been solved.

The itching in many cases becomes as severe and tormenting as pain. The patients scratching causes sores and a peculiar skin thickening termed lichenification dubbed by the three doctors psychodermatitis.

The cure according to the doctors is to remove the causes of worry or prevent the patient from worrying by artificially induced sleep.

NATURE CLINIC AT URALI KANCHAN

H. H. the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior has given permission for the erection of a building in Urali Kanchan for Mahatma Gandhi's Nature Cure Clinic.

Urali Kanchan is a village in the Scindia's Jagir in the Poona District which Mahatma Gandhi had recently selected for the establishment of a Nature Cure Clinic on account of the natural surroundings and salubrious climate.

GREATEST VICTORY OVER MALARIA

By the discovery of a new agent named Chloroquine medical science has achieved its greatest victory in the fight against malaria. Chloroquine does not discolour the skin and its activity is three times greater than that of quinine or mepacrine.

CONFERENCE OF HEALTH MINISTERS

A Conference of the Health Ministers from all the Provinces will be held in New Delhi on 10th October and the subsequent days under the presidency of Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan, the Health Minister in the Interim Government.

It is understood that problems relating to the improvement of sanitation in the rural areas all over the country on the lines of the recommendations of the Bhoré Committee will be considered by this Conference. The Provincial Ministers of Health are expected to attend this conference with complete schemes dealing with public health in their respective provinces.

The United Press of India understands that the Central Government are prepared to make lump grants to the Provinces for carrying out any scheme that may be evolved for improving the health of the village people as well as the general sanitary conditions in the rural areas. The proposed conference is likely to give a lead to the Provinces by chalking out a 5 year plan in this behalf which is to be implemented by the Provincial Governments in collaboration with the Central Government.

HEALTH CONDITIONS DURING 1945

That on the whole the birth rate in India in 1945 seems to have increased over the rate in 1944 but it did not reach the level of the last inter-censal years is shown by the Preliminary Note on Health Conditions in British India during the year 1945 by the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India.

In previous years there had been a progressive decline in birthrate in British India. From a birthrate varying round the figure of 34 per thousand during the last inter-censal years it came to 29 per thousand in 1941 and to 26 in 1943 and 1944. This reduction in the recorded birthrate was shown by nearly every Province the only difference being that in some the reduction was more pronounced than in others.

INDIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL BANK

The International Bank for reconstruction and development began functioning on June 25 and in accordance with the Articles of agreement, India was called upon to pay 2 per cent of per share subscription i.e. 3 million dollars, on or before August 24, and a further 3 per cent by November 25 says a Press note

The Central Assembly, during its last session, had recommended that the Government of India should not pay any portion of India's subscription without consultation with the Bretton Woods Committee of the Assembly. A meeting of this body was, therefore called to consider the action to be taken on the demand made and the Committee agreed to authorize the Government to pay the 2 per cent share which is to be paid immediately

As regards the remaining 8 per cent the Committee recommended that the sanction of the Assembly itself should be obtained

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA

A dividend of 14 per cent per annum has been declared to the shareholders of the Imperial Bank of India for the half year ended 30th June 1946 out of profits amounting to Rs 94'05'400, which included Rs 39'08'200 brought forward from the previous half year. A sum of Rs 9'25'000 was distributed as bonus to the staff

BURMA CURRENCY ORDER

The House of Commons approved, without discussion the monetary order which reduces from two years to six months the period of notice of termination of the operation of the 1937 order linking the Burma and India currencies and empowers the Government of Burma to continue to manage the currency until March 31 next year

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA LTD

We are informed that the net profit of the Central Bank of India, Ltd Bombay, for the half year ended 30th June 1946 including the amount brought forward was Rs 64,90,221. A dividend of Re 180, equivalent to 12 per cent per annum was declared

ADJUDICATION OF RAILWAY DISPUTE

The adjudication of the railway dispute between the Railway Board and the All India Railwaymen's Federation came up before Mr Justice Rajadhakshya. The All India Railwaymen's Federation was the first to present its case and it was represented by Mr R A Khedgikar and Mr. M A Khan

The Federation in a lengthy memorandum submitted to the court asked for forty two hours week for all employees, one weekly off, all bank holidays with pay, thirty days privilege leave, three weeks casual leave, full sick pay for entire period of sickness contracted on duty, overtime pay for line staff and 25 per cent leave reserve

Mr Khedgikar, President of the Federation, argued that it was physically impossible for railwaymen to work for long hours at a time without adequate rest. He cited several instances where employees were forced to work for more than eight hours a day without proper rest

STRIKE CALLED OFF

The Joint Strike Committee of the South Indian Railway Labour Union and the Station Masters Association, unanimously decided on Sept 22 to call off forthwith the strike says Mr S Guruswami, General Secretary of the All India Railwaymen's Federation in a statement to the Press

The statement reads

"In deference to the advice given by the Railway Member to the strikers and the personal assurances to them, the Joint Strike Committee has today unanimously decided to call off the strike forthwith and at the same time request the General Manager of the Railway to allow adequate time for the strikers to resume duty as it will take some time for this decision to reach the strikers"

An A P I message issued the next day, said —A large number of strikers reported to duty to day all over the South Indian Railway system following the calling off of the month old strike by the Labour Union. There is almost a full complement of staff at the stations on the Madras Tambaram suburban electric section

EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS ON INDIA

Lord Pethick Lawrence Secretary of State for India was among the many distinguished visitors at the opening at India House on September 16 of an exhibition of drawings from India sponsored by the Royal India Society

The opening ceremony was performed by the Vice President of the Society Sir William Barton formerly of the Indian Political Department

The drawings were made by two young British sappers F H Baines and W H Blackburn who were stationed in India during the war Great interest was shown by the visitors in sculpture drawings of figures in the Ajanta and Ellora caves The Exhibition remained open for ten days

THE REPENTANT MADELINE

A Good Example of popular prejudice which bars people from a correct appreciation of a work of art is provided by the picture of repentant Madeline There the artist had succumbed to the temptation to create a pretty figure and has sacrificed something more valuable the reality of his idea But precisely for the reason the picture has achieved great popularity

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS MADRAS

The Hon Secretary of the Indian Institute of Fine Arts Madras writes that an exhibition of paintings drawings sculpture, etc of both amateur and professional artists will be held from the 1st to the 6th of October 1946 at the Minerva Tutorial College Halls Road Egmore Exhibits should be sent to the secretaries 72 High Road Egmore Particulars regarding rules and regulations can be had from them

LOOTED TREASURES.

The United States occupation authorities have handed back to rightful owners more than 50 000 art treasures more than 1 000 000 books and industrial equipment worth 200 000 000 marks all looted by the Nazis, says an American news service in Germany states

INDIAN TEAMS RECORD

Drawing with H D G Levenson Gowers XI at Scarborough the Indian cricket team completed a successful tour on September 10 (cables Leerie Constantine *Reuters* Special Correspondent)

Of the 29 first class matches played 11 were won 4 lost and 14 drawn In view of the wretched summer, this was a splendid record, comparing favourably with previous Indian tours In 1936, only 4 first class games were won 12 lost and 12 drawn and in 1932 the figures were 9 won 8 lost and 9 drawn

With two of the three Test matches drawn the Indians lost the series through their defeat by England at Lord's but gained the consolation in that their two biggest victories were gained there—by an innings and 293 over Middlesex and an innings and 194 runs over the M C C

In a strong batting side Merchant proved particularly successful averaging 74.53 and scoring 2385 runs Hazare was runner up with 49.77 and Pataudi third with 46.71

Vinoo Mankad the left arm bowler and and right hand batsman, performed the double feat of 1 000 runs and a 100 wickets the first Indian to do so His average was 20.76 Another fine all rounder V S Hazare finished second in the bowling averages too with 24.75 while Sarwate was fourth with 25.37

VENUE FOR OLYMPIC GAMES

At an International Olympic Committee meeting held at Lausanne on September 3 it was announced that the next World Olympic Games will take place at Wembley from the end of July to August over a period of 18 days No events will take place on Sundays

CYCLE TOURIST

Mr Hiranmoy Bhattacharya a B Sc student of the Calcutta University who started from Calcutta on May 29 on a cycle tour, of India passed through Allahabad in the last week of June

Mr Bhattacharya has undertaken an educational tour of India and is cycling up to Delhi and back to Calcutta

DR C V RAMAN ON ATOM BOMB TEST

Strong condemnation of Atom Bomb and "Atom diplomacy" was voiced by the famous Indian scientist, Sir C V Raman, at Colombo whither he had gone to attend the second annual session of the Ceylon Association of Science, on Sept 9

'Scientists should have refused to collaborate with warmongers and should have refused help in the production of the atom bomb, which, after all, is a very wicked thing', he said

He added that the greatest tragedy was waste of human effort and money in perfecting the weapon and referred to the United States Bikini atom bomb tests as a "stupid, cruel and wicked waste

The 30 000 000 dollars spent on the tests could have been better utilised for the benefit of humanity and the world's happiness, he said

THE LATE SIR JAMES JEANS

The famous astronomer, Sir James Jeans died at Dorking (Surrey) on September 16 at the age of 69

Sir James Hopwood Jeans, Member of the Order of Merit, Fellow of the Royal Society, Master of Arts, Doctor of Science, was described by the late Sir Oliver Lodge as "one of the six greatest men in the world". He was not only pre-eminent among the astronomers and an original and daring thinker but he had a luminous gift for explaining deep facts of astronomy in vivid phrases easily understood by the lay man

INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS

Arrangements are in progress for holding discussions on topics of immediate national importance under the auspices of the Indian Science Congress which will meet at Patna in the first week of January 1947, under the general presidency of the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. There will be an important general discussion on 'National Planning' and in connection with the topic, the fourteen sections of the Indian Science Congress are organising symposia on allied themes

INDIAN FILMS

Well wishers of the Indian film industry must feel obliged to the attacks on entertainment films made recently in the Madras Assembly and for the assurance of the Prime Minister that the Government would go into the question of regulating the people's entertainments, writes Mr Ram L Gogtay in a letter to the Press. For, Indian films, despite fifteen years of talkie production have shown no improvement as to quality and culture which should ordinarily be inherent in them. "The Provincial Governments of Bombay, Madras, Bengal and the Punjab—the four provinces in which films are produced—should help the producers in their respective provinces to produce better films. Every producer must set up a competent Story Selection Department whose sole purpose would be to study the past and present literature of the country and evolve therefrom stories for filming. The Government should then offer for a fee to scrutinise in advance of production the stories selected so as to exclude all undesirable features therefrom. In America this work is done by the American Film Producers Association and it has acted in this respect with an impartiality and devotion to the cause of better films that must evoke admiration."

HOLLYWOOD'S STAGGERING PROFITS

Hollywood had expected that in the fiscal year of 1946 profits would probably touch £25,000 000. Statisticians in Wall Street and Los Angeles are now saying that the industry will show a clear profit this year of the staggering total of £32 000 000.

Two big companies, Warner Brothers and R K O, have just reported advances of more than 100 per cent on their 1945 figures. Warner's net profit it is announced, will be £3 687 250 for the first nine months this year compared with £1,591 000 for the same period last year. R K O announce a net profit for the second quarter of the current year of £801,349 which is almost three times the figure for the same quarter last year.

NATIONALISATION OF MOTOR TRANSPORT

It is announced that the Punjab Government intend taking over some of the passenger services in the course of the next few months in pursuance of the Government's policy to nationalise the road motor transport. The concerns to be taken over will be given fair compensation.

In a Press Note on the subject Mr P Marsdom, Secretary, Punjab Government Transport Department says. For some time past the Government have been considering the question of nationalisation of road motor transport. They are aware that transport concerns have been working under considerable difficulty during the war years and that for the most part they have been of great service to the public as well as to the administration. After very careful consideration however the Government have decided that in the interests of the public and of the administration it is desirable that Government should take over all passenger service and to a limited extent cater for goods traffic not for the present interfering further with the public carrier permit holders although ultimately their intention is that goods transport shall also be nationalised.

BUS TRANSPORT FOR PASSENGERS

A Press Note issued by the Central Road Traffic Board during the continuance of the S I Ry strike says

In view of the great inconvenience caused to travelling public due to the continuance of South Indian Railway strike various new temporary bus services have been started in the regions affected. The following are some of the services

Sri Rama Vilas Bus Service Ltd—(1) Madras to Trichinopoly 2 buses for through passengers (2) Madras to Villupuram 2 buses for through passengers (3) Madras to Chingleput 4 buses (4) Madras to Conjeevaram 2 buses

Provincial Motor Transport Ltd—Madras to Tindivanam 2 buses

The City Motor Service Ltd—(1) Madras to Jalarpet 1 bus (2) Jalarpet to Coimbatore 3 buses

AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY FOR INDIA

A ten point plan to provide India with a modern aircraft industry at a cost of Rs 130 00 000 in the first five years is outlined in a secret report to the Government of India issued by the United Kingdom Aircraft Mission which surveyed the possibilities of such an industry in March this year.

The focal point of the whole plan is the acquisition of the Hindustan Aircraft Factory at Bangalore, as the nucleus around which India's aircraft industry, would be built.

The ten point plan is simple, says the Mission's report, and India can have, if the scheme is adopted a self supporting aircraft industry by 1965, capable of exporting planes to important countries within the Indian sphere of influence.

AIRWAYS (INDIA) LIMITED

In a country of vast distances and increasing demand for long distance transport like India the demand for civil aviation is likely to be considerable. The flotation of new airline companies is a welcome sign that Indian enterprise is prepared to explore and exploit all possibilities in this almost virgin field. Airways (India) Limited exhibits the features of a promising venture.

The company has purchased so far eight aeroplane three of which are under going conversion at the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. Three are already at the Dum Dum aerodrome. The remaining two are expected to reach this country early next year.

AERODROME CONSTRUCTION

A separate Aviation Wing of the Central Public Works Department with a Chief Engineer at its head, five Superintending Engineers and 13 Divisional Officers has been formed with effect from July 1, 1946. This Wing will be responsible for the planning direction and execution of all Civil Aviation Works. The Planning Circle of the Civil Aviation Directorate has now been transferred to this Wing.

GANDHIJI AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

'Mahatma Gandhi's spiritual guidance does play an effective part in the present administration but it would be wrong to think that Mahatmaji is against industrial development. On the contrary Mahatmaji is keen on such development. But we should not blindly imitate the activities in other countries where the Governments are functioning in different conditions altogether. We should not for instance desire the extinction of the rural civilisation which is our heritage' said Mr C Rajagopalachari Minister for Industries and Supplies presiding over the meetings of the Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and its Advisory Board which met in New Delhi on September 16 and 17.

HANDLOOM CLOTH PRICE CONTROL

Welcoming the 'Handloom Cloth Price Control Order of 1946 the Cloth Merchants' Association Tirunageswaram have represented to the Provincial Textile Commissioner Madras in a communication that the order may be given effect to after Deepavali.

The Association feel that the 4 per cent profit now contemplated by the department is insufficient and hold that 6¼ per cent should be allowed to the wholesale dealers in handloom textiles.

TRACTORS FOR INDIA

What is regarded as the nucleus for a tractor industry in India is being set up near the Pusa Institute New Delhi. The Government of India recently purchased 100 tractors from the US war surplus. Tractors, however, require reconditioning before they could be used on agricultural fields.

The U S Government also had a reconditioning plant at Indore which has been acquired by the Government of India and shifted to New Delhi.

MAC ARTHURS NO

The Government of India has been attempting during the past six months to send a technical mission to Japan to inspect Japanese processes in certain industries but so far General Mac Arthur has refused to grant permission for such a purpose.

ZAMINDARI TO GO IN U P

Replying to certain critics and an aspersion in the Communist press that the Congress Government is not serious about the abolition of the zamindari Mr Charan Singh, Parliamentary secretary to the Revenue Minister, said at a meeting in Sandila (Hardoi district) that the Government is in dead earnest to abolish the zamindari system and the U P will be the first province to do so. He hoped that it would take about 18 months to get to the stage of finally enacting the law for the purpose.

20 petitions signed by about 200 peasants were handed over to Mr Charan Singh and to Mr Govind Sahai Parliamentary Secretary to the Home Minister, who accompanied him to Sandila. Most of them alleged that the Zamindars had forcibly deprived them of their fields. Some said that they had been asked to vacate their lands on threat of being turned out of the village. An application bearing signatures and thumb impressions of about 100 Harijans alleged that the police officials were taking begar from them.

NEW CULTIVATOR TRACTOR

A new one man cultivator tractor which covers a wide range of application and which can be easily adapted to cultivating ridging, harrowing, seeding, fertilising and even light ploughing, is now in production in the United Kingdom. The tractor has a single wheel and weighs 310 lbs.

AGRICULTURAL INCOME TAX IN MADRAS

It is reliably understood that the Madras Government are considering a proposal to levy a graded tax on agricultural income in the province.

It is further learnt that the financial implications of the new measure are now being examined, and Government may take decision soon.

WORLD FOOD BANK

Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General of the Food and Agricultural Organisation, advocates the creation of a 'World Food Bank' from which reserves could be

RECOGNITION OF UNIONS

Under the new proposals only three types of unions will be recognized as coming under the purview of the Bombay Industrial Disputes Act representative unions with a membership of not less than 15 per cent qualified unions with a membership of not less than five per cent and primary unions (meaning those on the approved list) with a membership of not less than 15 per cent of the employees in any industry

There is to be only one union for each industry at a time The member's minimum subscription has been raised from one anna to two annas per month For securing registration under the Act a union will be required to have had the minimum membership for a period not less than three months instead of six months as at present

BUCKINGHAM MILL DISPUTE

The Principal Judge City Civil Court Madras has given his findings on the question referred to him as Adjudicator whether the workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills who were on strike recently, were entitled to the payment of wages and dearness allowance for the period of the strike

After enquiry the Judge found that the workers are not entitled to wages or dearness allowance during the period of the strike as there was no justification moral or legal for the strike

The Government have passed orders agreeing with the finding of the Adjudicator

LABOUR LEGISLATION PROPOSAL

Mr V V Giri Minister for Labour and Industries stated in reply to a question in the Madras Legislative Council recently that the Government were considering a proposal to bring in legislation to control labour in unregulated factories The Government had agreed to the proposal of the Government of India to amend the Factories Act so as to bring within its purview undertakings not covered by the present Act

FAMOUS DUNCES

Winston Churchill was one such Many men famous in after life were dunces at School He broke all records by the length of time he remained in the bottom form at Harrow Lord Halifax never passed an examination all his life

Thomas Edison was so dull that his teacher sent him back to his home with a letter saying that he would always remain a dunce This so enraged his mother that she started his education at home

Robert Burns and the Duke of Wellington were both considered dunces at school

Paderewski used to hide in the garden when his music master came Beethoven was thrashed by an exasperated father because he could not learn the rudiments of music

President Roosevelt failed in his final law examination

U S NEGRO FLOGGED FOR TRYING TO VOTE

The National Association for the Advancement of coloured people says it has received a sworn affidavit from Negro war veteran Etoy Fletcher that he was flogged in Rankin, Missouri for attempting to register to vote

Fletcher charged that four white men stripped him and flogged him with heavy wire cable and told him he would be killed if he again attempted to vote

TOLL OF BOMBS IN JAP CITIES

Dr George B Leroy of Chicago the official United States investigator, discloses new figures of casualties in Japan's two atom bombed cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki in his report

There were 30 300 dead and 40 000 injured in Hiroshima and 40 000 dead and 25 000 injured in Nagasaki The report said The bomb left 35 000 in Hiroshima and 50 000 in Nagasaki in need of immediate medical care

MUSLIM FOR MUHAMMADAN

The Government of Madras have passed orders directing that in future the word Muslim should be used in all official documents instead of the word 'Muhammadan'

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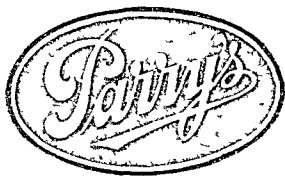
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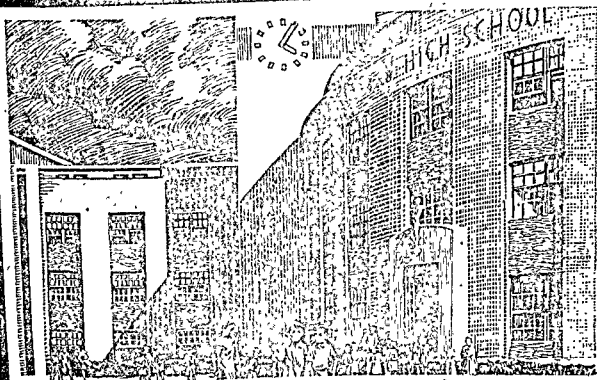
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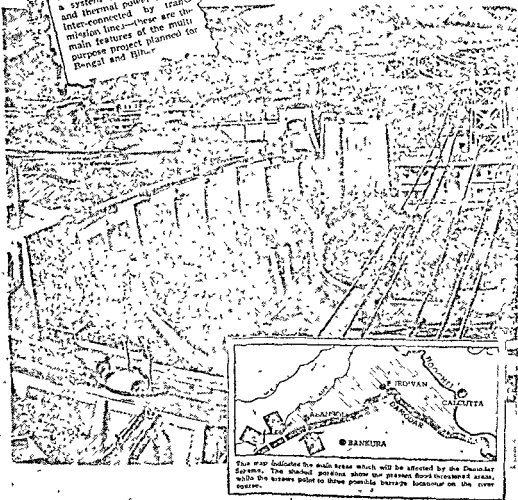
DAMODAR VALLEY PROJECT

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A series of re-ervoirs providing flood control and of water for irrigation and a system of hydro-electric and thermal power stations and connected by transmission lines—these are the main features of the multi-purpose project planned for Bengal and Bihar.

Building a Watershed

Preliminaries are complete and surveys are now being made for the construction of the eight dams and a barrage across the Damodar River. Indicating a capital expenditure of fifty-five crores of rupees, the Damodar Project would be "an example in the multi-purpose development of a watershed for India." Steel will be used for this gigantic project.

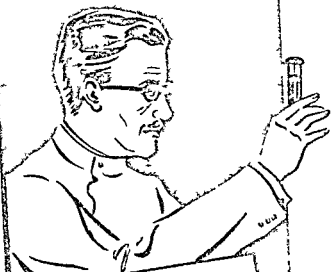


This map indicates the main areas which will be affected by the Damodar Scheme. The shaded portions show the present flood-threatened areas, while the arrows point to three possible barrage locations on the river system.

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OPINIONS

C. Rajagopalachari A good weekly giving the news and presenting truthful objective pictures of the nation rising from time to time ranks high in the instruments of public education. I wish the Saturday Mail every success. It is quite possible to be bright without losing one's accuracy or dignity of style. I am glad the Saturday Mail is striving in this field with considerable success and I wish it every success.

S. A. Bhrishi, President, All India Newspaper Editors Conference I have made a point of reading your weekly when in Bombay. In the brief period of one year the Mail has made a place for itself in Indian Journalism and I wish that in the years to come it will become an increasingly useful and popular journal and a powerful force for promoting national progress.

Gopinath Bardoloi It has indeed been a pleasure to me and some friends to read the Saturday Mail. The get-up and the manner of treatment of topical subjects have really been very good and I have not the least doubt that you are having increased number of customers everyday. I have also no doubt that your journal will be considered as an organ giving expression to real viewpoints of the Indian National Congress.

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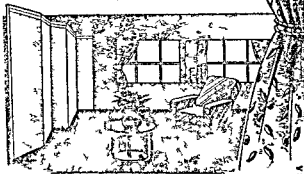
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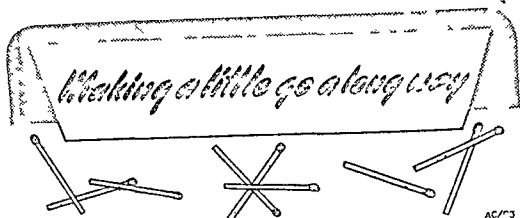
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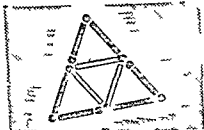
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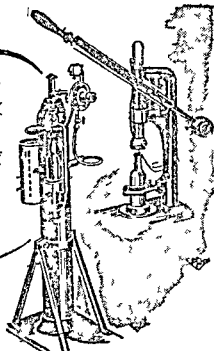
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol 47]

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INDIA'S BILL OF RIGHTS: WORK FOR THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

BY PROF. T. K. SHAHANI

Samaldas College Bhavnagar

0

FOR the common man in India nothing can be more felicitous than the setting up of the Indian Constituent Assembly so soon after the promulgation of the United Nations' Charter the noble preamble of which promises a sort of millennium to people all over the world. For the first time in the history of the world the common man has become an active participant in the making of the world order. We the peoples of The United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the Scourge of War and to reaffirm faith in fundamental Human Rights in the dignity and worth of the human person in the equal rights of men and women and of Nations large and small and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom 'have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims' Governments acting as agents of people were asked to frame the details of the United Nations Organisation and the Charter which covers many milestones in man's journey to goal of happiness on earth has in Article 68 made provision for the United Nations sub commission on Human Rights working under the supervision

of this body the gloomy chapter of Man's struggle for his rights now really comes to a happy end

THE LOT OF THE INDIAN MASSES

The Common Man in India scarcely attracted attention until very recent times. For ages he had remained a part and parcel of the few acres of land where he was either an owner or a tenant or a hired labourer. With the barrier of 'Untouchability' imposed against him he had no social rights not even the freedom of worship and hardly anything like human existence in the little world around him. His British masters who were, for a long time concerned only with the prevention of lawlessness, with the easy collection of land revenue and with the promotion of British Industrial and mercantile interests left the Common Man to look after himself as he best may. Well did Gokhale from the Congress platform in 1895 mournfully sum up the lot of Indian Masses

*Landless joyless helpless hopeless,
Gasping at it for bread and breath
To the graves by trouble haunted
And a s helots toil till death*

It is true, times have changed even with the proverbial Unchanging East, but

much leeway has still to be made to bring the Indian Common Man in line with his comrade in the West. It may now very reasonably be expected that the Constituent Assembly will frame for him a Bill of Rights in conformity with the requirements of the United Nations Charter, in other words, in conformity with the call of Humanity.

THE INDIAN BILL OF RIGHTS

On what lines might this Charter of the Fundamental Rights and Duties of the Indian be framed?

The basic Rights of Man may be divided into three Classes (a) Civil (b) Political (c) and Economic

(a) The Civil rights includes (i) the liberty of person *ie* freedom from arbitrary arrest or imprisonment. Under this legal right there is no room for slavery serfdom or duress in any form or for any "reason of State", and the judiciary must be separate from the executive, if the due process of law has any meaning. (ii) Freedom of worship which will, for instance give a legal right of entry into the Hindu Temple to all Hindus irrespective of caste, (iii) Freedom of speech, Assembly, Association and Information all contributing to the legal right of the expression of opinion single or collective, vocal or written which right must be incorporated in the constitution beyond the reach of the fiat of any person who in his fit of anger—righteous anger though it be—could say "If I were a Dictator, I would stop all the newspapers". In the 'Free Independent, Sovereign State' of India, nothing is more important than to give constitutional protection to Individual Liberty against the encroachment of the

government of the day, flushed with the heady wine of 'National' Victory. Care must be taken to see that the right of the Individual or of the Minority to differ from government is not lost in the over whelming weight of the argument of "Popular Sovereignty" supporting government point of view. Long ago, J S Mill foresaw this danger to Democracy and upheld the individuals' Right of free expression of opinion. Above all, let us never forget the helpful words of Milton in his 'Areopagitica,' "All opinions, yea errors, known, read and collated, are of main service and assistance toward this speedy attainment of what is truest. Freedom of Information is, in the present times the most essential basis of freedom of Opinion. To every adult in the country all avenues of thought—national and international—must remain open for enriching his mind and for the purpose of enabling him to form his opinion on, the conduct of his government in the most important matter of Inter State Disputes so that if, need be, the Individual may insist on government's accepting 'Third Party' Judgment to avert the calamity of War. (iv) The Right of Indian Nationality for all the people of all the Constituent parts of the Indian Union in the right of free movement and residence within the Union. The Indian States entering the Union will have to revise their laws in regard to deportation and refusal of entry and accept this basic right of every Indian. (v) Equality under Law for all—with the fullest operation of the Rule of Law binding all, *ie* the Common Man, the bureaucrat and the State itself according to which the officer must be brought to book for delinquency in the

discharge of his duties, and the State must allow itself to be sued in its own legal court by the aggrieved individual or the Corporation as the case may be. This Rule of Law carries with itself the Right of Judicial Review under which the Constitution must empower the Courts of Law to declare a law invalid, if it conflicts with the constitution.

(b) Political Rights. The Individual Personality is incomplete if it is without a voice in the formation and in the conduct of the government of the day. The idea of the "consent of the governed" is indissolubly connected with Democracy. This "consent" is expressed by the use of adult suffrage, and by the Freedom to form political parties with their programme, platform and proper funds for coming into power, and failing that, with the right to be the "Opposition." As the two most closely linked attributes of Human Personality, political and civil liberties are hardly distinguishable, and these rights therefore, find a prominent place in every modern written democratic Constitution. The Russian Constitution of 1936 professing to be democratic loses its meed of praise by giving in Article 126 a *Legal* recognition only to the Bolshevik Communist Party. A single party state can be neither called democratic, nor considered as having political rights for its citizens.

(c) Cultural and Economic Rights. In this field, the first place is taken by Education which is the entrance to healthy condition in life, in fact, the entrance to Man's future life—material and spiritual. It is the citizen's indisputable right to get equal opportunities for education and

the State has to devise ways and means to meet this fundamental human want. The intrusion of Economics into the life of the Common Man must compel all framers of constitutions to provide for legal protection against Want. The Indian has, so far, generally viewed life in the gloomy words of the poet

"Come he slow or come he fast,
—It is but Death that comes at last."

More recent attempts at "direct action" as seen in a number of strikes in India must, however, quicken the public conscience in making the decent standard of living available for all. Some provincial governments have already started *thinking* in the direction of socialisation of the means of production, exchange and distribution. The question has to be faced squarely on All-India basis. The Indian Constituent Assembly will have in their hands, the Weimar Constitution of 1919 and the Russian Constitution of 1936, both providing for economic rights.

Whereas, the Russian Constitution straightaway accepts outright socialisation, the Weimar Constitution, "treading the path of wholesale socialisation with caution," makes ample provision for the regulation of economic life conforming to the principles of justice, with the object of assuming human conditions of life for all. Perhaps in the present conditions of India the Weimar model may hold the field. The economic liberty of the individual, that is, the freedom of contract, the right of the inheritance, the right to the fruits of intellectual labour, the rights of private property subject to the right of the State to taxation and expropriation

for the benefit of the community with just Compensation will, on the whole meet with our present economic outlook. Of course, Labour will come in for special protection—even in accordance with international social and labour legislation for which ever since 1920 the International Labour Organisation has been active. Comprehensive Insurance Schemes, mostly managed by the insured themselves to safeguard public health ability to work motherhood old age and provision against accident and incapacity along with the right to Trade Unionism or co operative association will presumably, get an unequivocal legal recognition in our new constitution but the Indian Constitution will have also to guarantee against the oppression or exploitation of the *independent* agricultural, industrial commercial and professional middle classes so that the welfare and liberties of the bourgeoisie as well as the proletariat are kept steadily in view. When every modern constitution has a socialistic tendency, some extra emphasis on the constitutional protection of the Indian middle class will be essential. His period of service to the country is not at an end. Indeed, there may be a bright future for Industry in India if co operation between the employee and the employer is established by the institution of "Shop Councils" and other 'Conciliar' bodies for the management of the plant in which labour is fully represented. Whether in Industry or in Agriculture in public services or in professions, whatever be the channel of earning livelihood, above all the economic goal is a decent standard of living which the Common Man in India lamentably lacks.

No less imperative is the call for setting forth the doctrine of social solidarity which, while guaranteeing Rights, demands from the individual a rigid performance of his duties to the State as a part of the new World Organisation. The individual must make his *honest* contribution in taxation to enable the State to carry out its *positive* welfare functions. He must accept compulsory military obligation as a law of the land, even an honourable obligation like the citizens of the USSR do (by Article 132 of the Russian Constitution). He must accept as a legal civil obligation his share in the Watch and Ward, the Hue and Cry to hold up law breakers in his immediate locality, even as the common law of England imposes this duty on every citizen. He must guard public property as the sacred inviolable basis of his social system,—as the source of the prosperous life that is promised to him by the new constitution.

THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

The matter, however, does not end there. While the Indian government—central, provincial or Indian State as the case may be—, will be initially responsible for the enforcement of these fundamental rights and duties of the Indian, it will not lose sight of its accountability to the United Nations Organisation in all cases of departure from the minimum provided for in the terms of the Charter. The Human Rights Commission working under the Social and Economic Council will have the right of entry into this country as anywhere else,—to advise to guide, to control and if need be, to correct our delinquencies in this matter.

Furthermore an international Bill of Rights for the individual is now anxiously *looked*

forward to for safeguarding Human Rights. There have been several instances of National Bills of rights in the History of the world. Some like those of the U S A, Independence and of the French Revolution period even aspired to Universal Rights of Man, but they had only the Civil and Political Liberty of the Individual as their objective, and in the actual operation of Political Liberty their sphere was narrowed by property qualifications of the individual. Some of the constitutions that were framed after the world war I e.g. Weimar and Czechoslovakia had in their national bills of rights provisions safeguarding the economic life of the individual, but they proved to be shortlived, as Hitlerism soon swallowed up all ideas of the rights of the Individual in relation to the State. The Common Man was then, to realise that the State was not enough' and even before the world war, a very notable contribution was made by the International Law Association of U S A (1929) towards lifting the Individual's rights up to the world sphere by producing a sort of blue print on the subject entitled

The International Bill of Rights. This document is comprehensive. It anticipates the Atlantic Charter, Roosevelt's Four Freedoms and the Moscow Declaration of the United Nations. Mr. Lauterpacht, a most liberal minded and erudite exponent of International Law has very recently offered another blue print on the subject, rather marred by cautious references to racial equality—a great concession to Domestic Jurisdiction as against the International Protection of Human Rights. But the United Nations Charter with its noble preamble

quoted above (Fame has it, that General Smuts himself is the author of this preamble!), with its Article 68 leaves all previous blue-prints far behind and offers to the Common Man the longed for millennium in the field of Human Rights. --

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE INDIVIDUAL

The Individual's coming under the protection of International Law is not an innovation. Since ages he has had much to do with it. Both he and his State are the basis of the entire structure of the international Law of Peace, though for procedural convenience his State is the subject of International Law and he the object. Due to the procedural convenience, superficially viewed, the present position of the Individual National seems to make him juridically absorbed in the State of which he is a national. The correct fact is that even at present he is an addressee in a substantial part of both customary International Law and Treaty Law. The aim and object of this Law has been the Individual National. Westlake said 'The Duties and Rights of States are only the duties and rights of men who compose them. In the Advisory Opinion concerning the jurisdiction of the Courts of Danzig the Permanent Court of International Justice very expressly recognised that the State may directly grant to individuals direct rights by Treaty. Kelson in one of his latest books, 'Law and Peace in International Relations,' says 'Only Individuals can have rights and duties, for the substance of rights and duties can only be the behaviour of individuals. Thus International Law and National Law do not regulate the behaviour of different,

but of the same subjects both regulate the behaviour of individuals. Further the last Post war International Arbitral Tribunals adjudicated the claims of quite a number of individual nationals of various States. And recently we saw the trial of national War Criminals before the Nuremberg Court. But the latest comes from Dr Everet of Australia demanding at the Peace Conference on the 18th of August the the institution of a World Court for Human Rights. The individual is the pivot of the whole system. Round him moves the State with its frankly acknowledged limitations and for him also exists the international Order the final referee in all points of difference between a State and a State or even between the National and his own State. Doubtless the new era of the World Charter will make it permissible to the individual for appeal to the international Order even against the tyranny of his own State *et* after he has exhausted all the available national constitutional and judicial means to obtain a redress of the wrongs alleged to have been inflicted on him by his state.

COLLECTIVE INTERVENTION

Is intervention a new idea? No, it is as old as history. Principles and practices of one State have been the concern of other States. Long ago even in the 17th century the author of the *Vindicia Contra Tyrannos* made the oppression of the subjects by their own rules a just cause for intervention, by other States. And Burke in his *Reflections* on the causes of the French Revolution became a sort of Peter Hermit asking the Conservative World to root out the liberal

ideas of France 'under the plea that' When our neighbour's house is on fire, it is not amiss for the engines to play a little on our own. The French Revolutionaries in their turn intervened in Europe and well nigh subverted the old order by 'the march of their ideas' no less than by the march of their armies. Then again, the Holy Alliance had its revenge on Liberalism. And on Politico Humanitarian ground Turkey was again and again a favourite field for intervention by European powers. With the institution of the League of Nations Collective Intervention more than individual State's intervention came in vogue. It caused no jealousy among states and did some real good to the States where intervention was found necessary, *eg* in the financial reconstruction of Austria and Hungary by means of financial assistance under the management of a Commissioner General appointed by the League. The Charter now proclaims the higher authority of the United Nations Community and its responsibility for upholding the fundamental rights of the Common Man if any individual state either lags behind the minimum standard of welfare, for all or violates any of those rights which the International Bill of Rights will accord to every individual in every State. It is possible to believe that the world Intervention may evoke historical memories of an unpleasant nature. It may well be substituted by 'the exercise of the higher right of the Community to see to the observance by the separate states of their obligations as members of this Community' (Fenwick *American Journal of International Law* October 1945)

The Governor-General of the Dominions

By PROF R J VENKATESWARAN, M A

THE history of the Governor General of the Dominions, like the history of the English King, is a steady progress from virtual dictatorship to virtual impotence. The Governor General is a constitutional head like the King of England whom he represents. He is appointed by the King on the advice of the Dominion Prime Minister normally for a period of five years. In the early days, however, appointments were made by the British Government in utter disregard of the wishes of the colonies. The colonies vehemently protested against this and so the British Government were obliged to change their policy. Accordingly a convention was set up by which the previous sanction of the Dominion had to be obtained before the appointment was made. The Imperial Conference of 1930 definitely laid down that the Governor General should be appointed exclusively on the recommendation of the Prime Minister of the Dominion Government. Accordingly the selection of Lord Bessborough as the Governor General of Canada in February 1931 and of the popular novelist John Buchan as his successor in 1936 was made on the sole responsibility of the Dominion Government. The Governor General therefore is the free choice of the Dominion Government. He can be removed from office by the Dominion Government before the expiry of the normal period of five years. Besides, nationals of the Dominions also are appointed to this office.

The Governor General does not interfere with the policy of the administrators or its execution. He does not attend the meetings of the Cabinet. He stands above all parties.

His attitude on all questions is absolutely non-partisan. He appoints as ministers that group of party leaders who can command a majority in the legislature. His freedom to express publicly on questions of contemporary politics is very much circumscribed.

Before 1926 the Governor General had the power to disallow bills passed by the Dominion legislatures. He had also the power of reservation by which he withheld his assent from a bill duly passed by the legislature and reserved it for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure. But the Imperial Conferences from 1926 to 1930 and the Statute of Westminster abolished all these restrictions on the internal sovereignty of the Dominions. It was declared in 1926 that the Governor General should act in accordance with the same principles as the King recognises in his relations with his ministers. The Imperial Conference of 1930 laid down that the power of disallowance could no longer be exercised in relation to Dominion legislation. It also recognised that it was not proper for the Crown to issue any instructions to the Governor General as to reservation of bills which therefore he must reserve if at all only on ministerial advice or on some other constitutional ground. It held further that if a bill were reserved in this way the decision as to its fate must be in accordance with the views of the Dominion Government and not of the British Government.

Since 1926 the Governor General ceased to perform ambassadorial functions. The agency functions which he used to carry out were transferred to the High Commissioner.

The Governor General of the Dominion is not a Viceroy. This fact is of some significance from the legal point of view. He is liable in the courts of the territory both civilly and criminally for any acts done in his private or public capacity if these acts are illegal.

The real executive in a Dominion is a cabinet, chosen, as in England from the party which commands a majority in the legislature. The Dominion Cabinet resembles the British Cabinet in all essential features

--the exclusion of the Governor General from its meetings, political homogeneity, joint responsibility, to the legislature and the ascendancy of the Prime Minister. Besides executive functions, the ministers perform some legislative duties as well. They initiate most of the important bills in the legislature and supply effective guidance and leadership to it.

We thus find that the Governor General of the Dominion is only "a dignified emollient rather than a source of active power".

REMEMBERED BOOKS

By PADMASANI

I am cursed—or perhaps blessed—with a poor memory. I can read the same book over and over again as though I had never come across it before. Yet there are quite a few books that I can include in my list of remembered books. Lest my list should surprise the reader I should confess at the outset that I have never received any kind of schooling or 'colleging' whatsoever. I was married when I was eleven and I was a mother when I was seventeen. Circumstances have made me multilingual. You may say there is a sort of book atmosphere around me. I am ever in for it in it, though not always of it. My two children live in a whirl of text-books, exercises, and popular magazines while my husband, being a professor, and besides an author and a free lance, is perpetually preoccupied with books. Without any planning on my part or any special exertions I find that I can read with fair ease books in Tamil, English, Kannada and Marathi.

As Tamil is my mother tongue, the earliest books I read were necessarily Tamil books. I have been luckily spared, as I said, the bother of reading things I don't like or of preparing for examinations. I read as I liked, from the beginning or from the end and I read without worrying about plot, characterisation style, etc. But a novel like Rajam Iyer's *Kamalambal*, once read, could not be forgotten. I have read it frequently, but the first thrill of discovery remains. The detective novels of Ranga Raju interested me greatly and, of course, I like and remember *Rajambal* best. I enjoyed the plays of Sambandam, the short stories of "Kalki", the essays in *Vinoda Rasamanjari*, and some of the books of Kalyanasundara Mudaliar. But *Kanalambal* continues to be the best of my remembered books. Rajam Iyer died when he was very young but even so he has left behind him an imperishable masterpiece in *Kamalambal*. Steeped in Tamil, Sanskrit and English literatures, Rajam Iyer sucked inspiration

from many fruitful sources Besides Rajam Iyer was a humanist a humorist and a precocious Yogi *Kamalambal* excels in portraiture at once firm and humorous and understanding, its descriptions are vivid and unforgettable and its poetry has an abiding quality Modern Tamil literature can boast of many creditable novels but *Kamalambal* is decidedly the best as it is perhaps the first of them all Of recent Tamil novels I remember with gratitude Kumudini's *Druvan Mahal* and Shanker Ram's *Parvathi*

I started reading Kannada in an unconventional manner I wrestled with the script for a little while till I grew fairly familiar with it Then I launched upon Valmiki Ramayana in a Kannada version Knowing the story already it was not very difficult for me to follow the Kannada version My mother-in-law, who listened to me as I read volume after volume was of the opinion that Kannada was really Tamil a little bit disguised with Sanskrit robes Later on I read a few Kannada novels stories essays and biographies Some of the short stories moved me very much notably those of Masti Venkatesa Iyengar My husband says that Masti's *Masunatti* is without doubt one of the world's best short stories and I suppose he is right I remember also Puttappa's *Kanooru Sabbamma Haggadathi* Gokak's *Janā Najala* (a social tragedy) Karant's *Marali Mannige* and Kailasam's *Tolli Gaddi* Two notable translations that have left an indelible impression on me are *Premahuti* and *Bharata Marga* adaptations respectively of Anna Karenina and *A Passage to India*

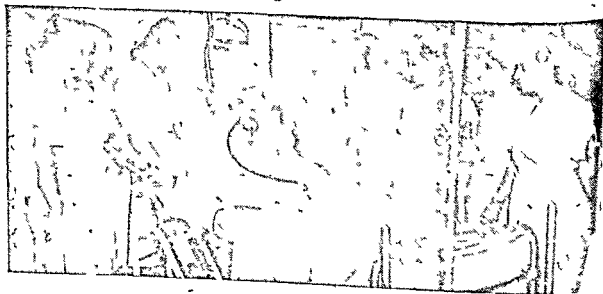
The friendship of a Maharashtrian family made my introduction to modern Marathi fiction and drama both easy and natural My familiarity with Nagari script was an additional help in the matter At first I read the abridged school editions of Hari Narayan Apte's historical and other novels Presently I took courage in both hands and read Hari Narayan Apte in the original The novels gripped me I can honestly include *Me* as one of books that I really remember Hari Narayan Apte's massive novels recreate past with the fidelity and it is a liberal education by itself to read them and remember them again and again Hari Narayan Apte's social novels too profoundly moved me and I cannot forget a novel like *Bajankara Druva* I have since read a number of popular Marathi novels and plays of which I remember best *Dhon Dhruva* by Khandekar

I come to English last In my younger days I did at home of my own accord some hand-to-mouth English, and later left it off as hopeless I started again a few years ago but with much more success After a good deal of preliminary reading, I found that modern drama gave me the least difficulty Barrie's *Admirable Crichton* I read and re-read with pleasure, and I can list it as one of my remembered books I tried next *Quality Street*, and found it equally interesting Phoebe is one of my favourites in literature Other modern plays I remember with pleasure and gratitude are Harold Chapin's *Elaine*, Galworthy's *Silver Box* Milne's *Dorset Road* and Bennett's *Milestones* I read Ibsen also in English and retain a vivid recollection of *Doll's House* and *Ghosts* The last

scene in *Ghosts* is a pitiless and fearful thing. Often when I see the Sun rising, suddenly Oswald's words—"Mother give me the Sun"—make a tremor pass through my whole being. On the other hand the lighter comedies of Chekov—*The Proposal* for instance—are things to remember with a grateful smile. I have tried Shakespeare's plays too by fits and starts, and remember very well *Othello*, *Hamlet* and *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Of novels in the English language, I remember Hardy's *Mayor of Casterbridge*. It was not a happy story to read but I had

to read it through to the end. The bulk of the average English novel generally frightens me, and on the whole I prefer to read a Tamil novel to an English novel. However, I should mention here Lin Yutang's *A Wind in the Storm* which is a very fine book indeed. The novel gives a credible and memorable picture of war-torn China and the principal characters are sympathetically drawn. More recently I read Humayun Kabir's *Men and Rivers*, and I have no doubt it will take a place in my "remembered books".



GREEK NURSES STUDY BRITISH METHODS

A party of Greek Nurses who have been sent to Great Britain by UNRRA to observe British methods of nursing watching a patient receive oxygen treatment at the Local County Council Hospital, Lewisham.

THE FUTURE OF OUR DISTRICT BOARDS

By MR C RAMAN MENON

LOCAL self government was a virile and dynamic force in India from the earliest beginnings of her long history. The Indian Village Republic survived all the storms—external invasions as well as civic convulsions—that shattered thrones and dynasties through scores of centuries. It was only in the quite recent past that it fell a prey to the ruthless scythe of the British Indian Bureaucracy. The self governing institutions—local Boards and Municipalities—that we have in modern India have no organic connection with the old autonomous village communities. They have their roots in sporadic efforts made by the bureaucrats here and there to establish contact with the people. But these efforts show how even the omniscient Indian bureaucrat felt himself helpless to contact the masses and realised the need to secure their co operation in some of the vital aspects of governmental work. These institutions first arose as irregular ancillary bodies to serve specific purposes. Thus in the Madras Presidency a Road Fund with a Committee to operate it was formed in 1853. In 1855 this Road Fund along with income from ferries, avenue trees etc. was constituted into a Local Fund. In some Districts voluntary rates were raised for running elementary schools, and special committees were organised to deal with them. In 1871 a Local Fund Act was passed by which thirty six rural self government bodies were set up in this Province. They looked after the construction and repair of roads, the maintenance of schools, dispensaries and choultries, vaccination etc. These thirty six Local Self governing bodies were the forerunners of

the existing District Boards. There was similar development in other Presidencies also, particularly in Bombay.

In 1884 when Lord Ripon set about the reorganization of Local Self government in India, the Madras Government claimed that 'as regards Local self government Madras was in advance of other parts of India in respect of the organization of Local Bodies and in the amount and variety of the work done by them—a claim which was not quite admitted by Ripon in view of the official ridden nature of these bodies. Lord Ripon was a radical—though an extremely cautious one—and his proposals included elected majorities and elected non official Presidents. It took nearly half a century to realise these ideals. This is not strange as the tiny seedling had to grow in the teeth of bureaucratic opposition, veiled or open. Lord Ripon was well aware of this. In a letter to Gladstone he said 'India is governed by a bureaucracy which has the faults and dangers which belong to every institution of the kind, among these faults is conspicuously a jealousy of allowing non officials to interfere in any way whatever with any portion however restricted, of the administration of the country.'

Lord Ripon's Legislation created Union Boards for villages or groups of villages, Taluk Boards for the next higher administrative units and District Boards above all these. As the constitution of Union Boards was left to the discretion of the bureaucrats, comparatively few were organised but Taluk and District Boards being obligatory by law these had to be worked in all Taluks and Districts. The provisions of the Act of

1884 were revised by the Act of 1920 in view of the recommendations of the Decentralization Commission. Further changes were introduced by the amending act of 1930 and 1934. The latter abolished the Taluk Boards set up by Ripon's Act of 1884 as they were considered to be superfluous intermediary bodies with insufficient finances and faced with insuperable deadlocks. The amending act of 1930 brought the Union Boards now known as Panchayats within the purview of the Local Boards Act. Thus Rural self government is now represented by these two types of self governing bodies—the Panchayat Boards and the District Boards.

That the unit of rural self government should be the village is recognised by every one. Even the Advisor Regime in this Presidency which charged the existing Panchayats with faction corruption in efficiency etc. did not propose to do away with them but only tried to dispense with the elective element in them and to graft officials to the Panchayat administration, placing all Panchayats under the District Collector. This extremely undemocratic measure was still born. In view of the notorious record of the Revenue Department in recent years it was ridiculous to introduce supervision by that department to end corruption in village administration. Or perhaps did the Advisor government bring forward this proposal on the principle 'Set a thief to catch a thief'? It is understood that the present Ministry proposes to introduce shortly a Village Republics Bill which we may hope will remove the defects which have made the existing Panchayats of so little account in our national life. These defects are mainly insufficient finances

insufficient freedom to use even the restricted funds at their disposal want of trained staff under the control of the Panchayat and the suffocating stranglehold in which the Inspector of Local Boards represented locally by the District Panchayat officer holds all the Panchayats. At any rate the new Act proposed now has an inspiring title. It may be expected that the contents of the bill will justify the name and bring about a real revolution in rural administration.

While there is unanimity of opinion as regards the necessity for the continuance and for a very considerable expansion of village Panchayats, there is great diversity of views regarding the future of the second agency now functioning in the sphere of rural self government viz the District Boards. People whose ideas of Democracy are extremely nebulous and therefore confused are found asking what need there is of elected District Boards when we have an elected Provincial Legislature. They seem to be of opinion that as soon as a democratic government for the whole province is in being the need for all other subsidiary elected bodies disappears. If this argument is carried far enough it will lead to the abolition of all Panchayats and Municipalities also. That this is a thorough misconception of the true nature of democracy will be clear if we devote a little thought to the implications of this theory. To have a Provincial government however democratic may be its constitution and no elected bodies below it would mean almost undiluted bureaucracy for, the Provincial Democratic government would have no means of contacting the masses except through its bureaucratic agents. Centralization is the

principle and a steel frame bureaucracy the means by which modern autocracy works. Decentralization and Local self government are the means by which Democracy is realized. It is not enough to leave a democratically elected body at the top. There should be democratically elected self governing bodies at every stage below. Every administrative area should have its own democratic organization. A village is an administrative area and therefore there should be a self governing Panchayat. A town is an administrative area and therefore there should be an urban municipality. A district is a clearly demarcated administrative area and therefore there should be some form of democratic organization for it also.

In this connection the example of England is worth remembering, specially as the Local Self government institutions now functioning here were copied from English models. Our District Boards have their counterparts in the County Councils of England, our Municipal Councils in the Borough County Councils, our major Panchayats in the Rural and Urban District Councils and our minor Panchayats in the Parish Councils and Parish Meetings. The existence of a democratically elected Parliament has not been regarded as a reason for doing away with the self governing institutions, in the rural and urban areas, and the existence of Local self governing bodies in every town and parish has not been regarded as a reason for doing away with the intermediary County Councils. As a matter of fact the County Council is an extremely important limb of the great structure of English Democracy and the nature and extent of the powers wielded

by them would almost give a shock to the hardboiled Indian bureaucrat, for the County Councils in England control almost all departments including the Police force.

That some intermediary body between the Provincial government and the Village Panchayat is an absolute necessity will be clear from practical considerations also. Government in the broadest sense means organised social service and democracy means control of this social service by the elected representatives of the people. There are various forms of organised social service that the village requires relating to protection of life and property, education, health, communications industry (including agriculture) etc. It is right that the village elementary school, the village roads and foot paths, the village policeman, the village co operative society etc should be controlled by the villagers themselves. But there are certain aspects of these services that are obviously beyond the scope of a single village community, services which cannot be maintained exclusively by or for one village, services which have necessarily to cater for areas more extensive than one village. Roads—other than short village roads—have to pass through many—sometimes hundreds of—villages. A village Panchayat cannot maintain a high school, many of them, not even a Higher Elementary school. It cannot maintain a good hospital or an efficient health service. Hence some Local self governing authority able to serve the needs of areas far wider than a village is essential.

At present the District Board is the only organization answering to this need. Of course this need not be the only one. Above the village there is the *Firka*, and

above the Firka the Taluk. As regards the Firka the difficulty is that except in the matter of revenue collection it is at present not an administrative unit. The Taluk is a better administrative unit. Taluk Boards functioned for half a century from 1884 to 1934. But experience showed that all the work which could be done by Taluk boards could be discharged equally well if not better by District Boards and there were grave difficulties as regards their finances. These are not insuperable and could be removed by proper legislation. But in reply to an interpellation in the Legislative Assembly recently the Honble the Minister for Local Self government declared that the Government had no idea of reviving them. In reply to another interpellation the Minister set at rest vague rumours that were afloat that the abolition of District Boards was imminent by stating clearly that the government had no such scheme. The District is at present so well marked an administrative unit that the abolition of the District Board will be a severe blow to rural democracy. What is required is not the abolition but a thorough reorganization of the nature and functions of the District Boards. There are three aspects of this reorganization to which it is hoped the present government will pay due attention.

First as regards the constitution of the District Boards. The government propose to introduce shortly a Bill for setting up Village Republics. It is absolutely necessary that the interests of the District Board as a corporate body and those of the village republics should not clash. The District Board should be a federation of these village republics.

The second point which requires urgent consideration is the regulation of the finances of the District Boards. People have a habit of comparing government institutions with District Board institutions to the immense disadvantage of the latter and drawing the moral that self governing institutions are ineradically inefficient. A P W D road is superior to a District Board road. A government hospital is run more efficiently than a Local Fund hospital and so on. Wherein lies the root of this inefficiency? The simple explanation is that the Provincial government has more money to spend on its roads and hospitals than the District Board. Under the present Act the sources of revenue allotted to the District Boards are quite inelastic while the departments placed under it require rapid expansion. This places a majority of District Boards virtually on the brink of bankruptcy.

Thirdly the functions of the District Board have to be re-examined and re-determined if it is to fulfil its role in a democratic regime. People in India used to talk of the evils of dyarchy. It seems to be forgotten that in the government of a District a curious kind of dyarchy has always existed and still exists. In the Provincial administration Dyarchy meant that some departments were controlled by democracy and some by Bureaucracy. In District Administration the Dyarchy consists of some departments being bifurcated and one part run by the popularly elected Boards and the other part by the Bureaucrats. Thus we have the P W D Engineering Department and the District Board Engineering Department, the Govt hospitals and the Local Fund hospitals. The Board schools

rounding neighbourhood for the purpose of affording them intellectual improvement and rational recreation and amusement".

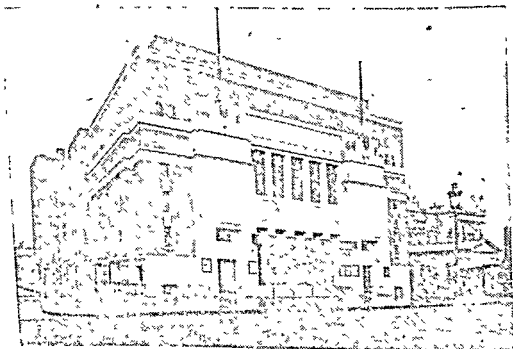
How successfully this came to be achieved was seen in the Technical Institute, for example, where day and evening students learned their trades and professions, and where, later, when the Institute became the East London College and part of London University, students came from all parts of the country, as well as from the near neighbourhood, to study for their degree examinations in science, the arts and engineering.

After the disastrous fire of 1931, then described as the worst collective loss ever known in the East End's social life, it was decided that such parts as remained—for the fire did not destroy everything—should be separated, in finance and administration, from the East London College.

The new plan provided for a large and a small hall, for concerts, film, and dancing. The new Queen's Hall was to accommodate 1,600 people, and the small hall 500.

The People's Palace, as it is to-day, is a fine building, spacious and comfortable, built of peach-coloured bricks, with the greater part of the facade of reconstructed Portland stone. Above the bronzed conopy of the main entrance are panels carved in low relief, representing the uses to which the building is put: friendship, dancing, sport, drama, music.

In 1937, a dramatic critic described a production of Shakespeare's "Othello" at the Palace as a "joy to both eye and ear". Huge activity of all kinds attracted the people, young and old. It is difficult to estimate the fine contribution made by this centre to the otherwise inevitably drab lives of the inhabitants of this area.



THE PEOPLE'S PALACE: A HOME OF CULTURE IN THE EAST
END OF LONDON

AIM OF UNIVERSITIES

1 BY DR SIR A LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR*

Vice Chancellor Madras University

It is true that to day universities in this as in other countries have been subjected to severe criticism. The remark has often been made that education is not purposive that not infrequently the products of our universities fail to come up to expectations in this or that field of activity or calling that initiative has not been as conspicuous as one would expect. Without trying to refute such criticisms, one may be pardoned for suggesting that not infrequently the true purpose and objective of university training has not been clearly realised and the limitations not fully understood. Universities are not exactly modelled on the pattern of our mills which turn out with methodical rhythm and unerring regularity finished products of monotonous similarity. Such mechanical laws are not applicable to the human mind nor are universities intended to fulfil such a purpose.

The highest purpose of a university is creative, its chief aim is to keep for ever untarnished those great and eternal verities those grand philosophic thoughts those high ideals which alone prevent us from sinking into that low level of materialism which may not distinguish man from beast. It is to the universities that one should ordinarily look for leadership in various walks of life alike in the spiritual moral and physical. It is there that one may reasonably expect to find great poets and philosophers immortal authors eminent scientists noble statesmen and

wise savants and sages. It is they who crown the university with glory and renown and around them grows an immortal halo of reverence and respect. To credit universities with such possibilities does not however signify that there may not be other sources from which such greatness does not spring. History records that despite such exceptions one does look to the universities ancient and modern to furnish the finest qualities of leadership in every sphere of activity.

There is however one danger that confronts universities under modern conditions. The utilitarian point of view is so much and so often stressed that it would almost appear as if the sole purpose of a university and its one objective is to satisfy the needs of a clamouring materialistic world to become the handmaid of those in authority, to subserve their immediate wants and to satisfy their insatiable appetite. A university which is true to its ideals is not only cosmopolitan in its composition but catholic in its range and outlook.

I fully appreciate the need for a scientific training and for the development of technical and technological studies in universities. But an over emphasis on such development and a craze on the part of all and sundry to rush to a study of the sciences to the almost complete neglect of the humanities is not a healthy development in university life. A university was not intended to be and should never become a mere technological institute for the creation and equipment of specialists.

* From his address to the Convocation of the Mysore University

I speak from the point of view of the scientist who has for many years now, pursued and actively encouraged the pursuit of scientific studies. It will be an evil day when the study of the humanities is relegated to the background if not completely neglected and all are encouraged to take to the study of scientific subjects whatever their aptitude in the vain belief that thereby they would be better fitted for a career. Let us hope that despite all criticism all temptations and all cheap sarcasm the universities in this country will keep to those high ideals in the pursuit of knowledge for its own sake.

Critics have not been wanting who while deploring the lack of the spirit of research in our universities have drawn the inference that this was mainly due to defective teaching and lack of aptitude for research amongst our young *alumni*. Fortunately the experience during the last war has proved beyond doubt that the spirit of originality and research is by no means absent in the Indian graduate and given the proper encouragement and resources the young graduate of Indian

universities possesses immense potentialities for carrying on research. There is a tendency on the part of some to regard research as something that can be produced to order and to imagine that all research should be productive of tangible results and be of immediate practical utility. This is a very short sighted view. That fundamental research is the basis and bed rock on which applied research can be built up with any hope of success will be crystal clear to any one familiar with research work and the history of all famous and epoch making researches. Attempts at research guided by purely utilitarian motives generally fail in their object or at least are not likely to be so fruitful as research without ulterior motive. I do not hesitate to plead on behalf of universities in general and your university in particular for a liberal outlook by the governments of States and Provinces in the matter of grants for the encouragement of research for its own sake leaving it to the joint endeavours of the State and the industries concerned to finance schemes of applied research where necessary.

1. THE HON. MR. T. S. AVINASILINGAM CHETTIAR *

Minister for Education Madras

○ OUR Universities should be representatives of our civilization and culture. They must be the instruments through which our culture and civilization can be spread. The glory of all institutions from the elementary schools to the colleges and the universities depends upon the type of persons that go out of them. In schools and

colleges there may be big majestic buildings. There may be a large number of students and professors. Millions of rupees may be spent on them. They may make boys pass in great numbers and even help them to pass in first classes. But this alone will not make any institution a great one unless the young men and women who go out of the institution have great ideals.

* From his address to the Convocation of the Annamalai University.

and character. The greatness of every institution will depend upon the number of people, who while discarding little selfishness will take up high ideals of service and renunciation in their own lives and that only should be the standard by which you must judge the quality of the institutions.

Mere intellectual education won't be real education. We have seen from experience how intellectual people can be most selfish. All their time and energy are spent in thinking about their own personal advancement and all their actions are directed towards the same end. We certainly want great and sharp intellects but along with that we want large hearts. And so let our Universities while giving intellectual education also broaden our hearts and create a little love for the poor and the lonely. Let us know that the poor the sick and the ignorant are part of our own lives. Let us not stop with thinking about our own conveniences or those of our families, but let us feel that it is our duty to work and live for a greater family which may embrace all the people of this great country and may even the whole of humanity. We have taken birth not merely to live for ourselves and for our families but for others. Our Saints have said "We are born to get an opportunity to serve the world." Let our Universities spread this great lesson.

It is unfortunate that our Universities to day are not in touch with life. Our Universities should doubtless supply society the great engineers doctors teachers, lawyers agriculturists and others such as these that we need. Besides our Univer-

sities must teach our young men and women their duties as father and mother, husband and wife, as sons and daughters and as students and also the duty that every one of us as a member of this great country should render to the other members and to the world in general. It is easy to talk about our rights and agitate for them. But it is difficult to know our duties. The emphasis to day has been too much on the rights and too little upon our own duties. It is a great Swami who said 'let us do our duties and we shall get our rights'. It is this attitude of mind which our young men and women require to day more than at any other time.

Our education should be man making. It is not a great thing for a man to eke out a mere existence for himself or for his family. The smallest of us do that. Great things are seldom done by the timid. Success often comes to those who dare and act. It is those who can take risks and strive after the great and glory that make a mark in life. But those who want to do great things must make great efforts also. Without the necessary effort nothing can be done. Mere talks and thoughts alone lead us nowhere. Every one who goes to the beach can bring the shells but those who want pearls must dive deep into the sea. They must face the great danger involved in it and pearls are rarely got on the first dive. We must persevere and dive again and again until we get it and a man who achieves is not daunted by difficulties and he has a self confidence in him that there is nothing which he cannot do and when dangers come he faces them. For a man with such determination and perseverance there is nothing impossible. Our country requires such young men. I would pray and wish that every one of you become one such

The Interim Government and Indian States

By MR M R BHALERAO B A LL B

THE Interim Government took office on September 2 Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru being at the head of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations the question of the nature of the relationship between the Indian States and the Interim Government has cropped up The question has now assumed a vital importance as it has been seriously discussed in different lights even before the advent of the Interim Government

1 The view upheld by the majority of the British statesmen may be summarised thus The Government of India is the Paramount Power and according to the Indian General Clauses Act The Government of India means the Governor General in Council *ie* the Governor General in Council is the Government of India and is the Paramount Power And the Indian States have to deal with the Government of India *ie* with the Governor General in Council They cannot deal with the crown directly This view is supported by the following arguments —

i The Government of India Act provides a special machinery for governing India

ii The Secretary of State is the integral part of this machinery he exercises a controlling jurisdiction over the Government of India *ie* the Governor General in Council

iii The Government of India Act 1858 created a separate office of the Secretary of State for India, *ie* India could not be placed in charge of the colonial office

iv In the Government of India Act the expression Her Majesty or His Majesty means not the personality of the Queen

or king but an integral part of the Sovereign Power in the British constitution

v The crown can take any action in regard to India not independently but through the machinery *ie* the Secretary of State and the Governor General in Council

vi The territories and rights held by the East India company belong to the crown But the actual governance of British India has been assigned by the Parliament to the Governor General in Council subject to the control of the Secretary of State for India The treaties with the Indian States are binding upon the Government of India and they do not involve relations of a personal character with the King

vii The treaties concluded since 1858 are those entered into by the Government of India and not by His Majesty's Government or by this Crown The treaties before 1858 were entered into not by the crown nor by His Majesty's Government nor by the Parliament but by the East India Company which had been vested with Sovereign Powers

These arguments establish the fact that the Indian States are required to deal with the Government of India Logically therefore the Indian States now are required to deal with the Interim Government of India They cannot deal directly with the crown

2 The contention that the relations of the Indian States are with the crown and not with the Government of India may be supported by the following arguments —

i The treaties with the Indian States were made by the East India Company as agent of the crown Therefore when

the Government of India Act 1858 determined the agency of the East India company, the States were brought into direct relations with the Crown

ii All the rights acquired by the East India company were acquired as agents of the crown, and as such vested in the crown *ab initio*

iii No provision of the Government of India Act 1915, expressly divests the crown of the rights and obligations arising under its treaties with the Indian States

iv Neither the Secretary of State nor the Government of India nor both of them—combined, can legally be claimed as final authority in matters relating to the Indian States

This controversy brought into existence the office of the crown Representative with whom the Indian States have to deal. This office has satisfied the desire of the Princes of the Indian States who wanted to deal with the crown directly

But the office of the crown Representative vests in the same person as the Viceroy who is also the Governor General of India—and he in Council is the Government of India. Thus the British statesmen who upheld the view that the Princes of the Indian States have to deal with the Government of India and not with the crown directly, are also satisfied

This controversy has assumed recently a different form. Now, the question is with whom the Indian States are required to deal? With the Viceroy as the crown Representative for India or with the Interim Government headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru? The fact that the Indian States are

being compelled to deal with the Interim Government is made doubly clear by the activities of the States Peoples' conference,—is a view opposed by the Indian States, and favoured by those who cannot agree with the absolute internal suzerainty of the Indian States, uncontrolled by the central Government of India

3 A third view is that the relationship existing between the crown and the Indian States is purely conventional. It is founded upon the agreements between the two contracting parties modified in certain cases by usage founded upon their consent. And therefore these agreements are the very source from which every obligation as well as every right of the crown must flow

It has been repeatedly asserted by the Government of India that the crown is the Paramount Power in relation to the Indian States and that the relationship is one of Paramountcy and Subordination. The use of the word 'Paramountcy' is clearly illustrated in Lord Reading's now famous letter to the Ruler of Hyderabad. There it has been very transparently asserted: "The Sovereignty of the British crown is supreme in India and therefore no Ruler of an Indian State can justifiably claim to negotiate with the British Government on equal footing. Its supremacy is not based only upon treaties and engagements but *exists independently of them* and apart from its prerogative in matters relating to Foreign Powers and Policies, it is the right and duty of the British Government while scrupulously respecting all treaties and engagements with the Indian States, to *preserve peace and order throughout India*." [Note: The underlines are mine]

The words in the above letter, "Its supremacy is not based only upon treaties and engagements but exists independently of them" give the right clue to the understanding of the Paramount Power. It is the virtue of wisdom and an innate love for the preservation of peace and order which is the source of the Paramount Power. It is the wise who rule. It is clear as day light that those who do not possess these virtues are relegated to the subordinate position. If the Indian States are aspiring after the Paramount Power or aspiring after the status equal with the Paramount Power, they do require the help of this supreme wisdom and an innate love for peace and order throughout India. None

can make one—supreme or subordinate. It is the actions that lead to supremacy or subordination. And this principle stands irrespective of the consideration of Nationality of the parties—whether the crown, or the Government of India, or the Indian States. It should not be superfluous to draw the attention of the Interim Government to the mature consideration of this principle, during these delicate and dangerous times, when people and nations distrust each other. If the Indian States aspire after the status equal with the Paramount Power—whether Government of India, or the crown, or the Interim Government, let them scrupulously make the above principle the guiding Star in their activities for the desired position.

SOIL EROSION: A NATIONAL MENACE

By MR P V C RAO, I.E.E., M.I.E.T. (London)

Corporate Member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers

THE majority of the agricultural population in India thronged in the delta regions of the Sindh, Ganges and Brahmaputra in the North and Godavary, Krishna and Cauvery in the South. Here the land is rich being built up by the humus laden soil which the rivers in floods carry from the mountain forests. These areas are less dependent on the vagaries of the rainfall, as the fanwise canals bring in timely water to the crops. Nevertheless, due to the obsolete and wasteful farming methods coupled with the hairsplitted holdings, the yield per capital is quite incommensurate with the potential worth of the land.

A traveller in a mid day train in the vast stretches of the Central Indian plains

or the jerky undulating country side of the Deccan plateau will have an experience of the scorching heat radiated by the barren tract and the blinding dust storms sweeping across miles after miles of open land with gullies making cancerous charms in the earth. In these regions millions of acres are either lying fallow or yielding by morsels as a result of which these areas are dotted here and there with semistarved and thirsty villages.

The present deplorable condition of the land was brought about by what is called Soil Erosion which is the worst enemy of mankind. Through generations soil erosion has exerted a tremendous influence on the course of civilization in the world. History

is mainly a record of human struggle to wrest the land from Nature, because man relies for sustenance on the products of the soil. Recent archaeological investigations proved that the region scarcely habitable to day once sustained rich cultures which declined as a result of the progressive deterioration of the land due to abuse or neglect.

The soil lost through erosion represents the waste of irreplaceable wealth and security on the land. When the land surface is barred of protective vegetation due to careless clearing off of the forests and unscientific cultivation, soil is exposed directly to the abrasive action of wind and water. Transposition processes of an extremely rapid nature are set in motion and the soil, an inch of which is built by Nature in 300 to 1000 years, is bodily displaced and either deposited at the bottom of the ocean or blown out by way of dust storms.

Through thousands of years Nature slowly built up our present soil structure by making the decaying remains of plants and animals with withered rock and sought to tie this mixture on the earth's surface by the interlacing of grass roots and tree roots on the velvet lawns and in the forests. Nature also tried to hold rainfall in the soil by slow accumulation of dead stems and leaves on the surface and roots below, which eventually became a part of the soil which produced them. This is how our soil is formed.

But man broke the prairies by overgrazing and cleared away the forests thus tampering with the armour of the earth. Then, once clear streams became muddy with

precious top soil peeled off either by the slow invidious process of sheet erosion or by the more rapid rill and gully erosion, and overflowed their banks with surplus water no longer retained within the soil. Deltas of silt formed and clogged river mouths. This is how we lost and are losing every year millions of tons of rich soil needed for food production.

Whereas in the low rainfall areas the evil of soil erosion is two fold *viz.*, loss of soil fertility and scarcity of water. In the heavy-rainfall regions the problem is mainly loss of soil due to surface run off and floods. This accounts for the thousands of acres lying fallow in Central India and in certain sectors of the Coastal belts.

With our growing population and recurring famines, with the present heart-rending economic plight of our agriculturist and with our vigorous food hunt, surely we cannot afford this colossal waste, and the sooner we emulate the example of the Americans who are the pioneers in conservation, farming and well planned land use, the better it would be for our agriculture.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr G. A. Natesan, Editor *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OCTOGENARIAN

By MR K BALASUBRAMANIA IYER, B.A., B.L.

THE phrase "Recollections & Reflections" describes the book* more accurately than the word "autobiography". Sir Chimanlal himself states in the concluding portion of his book as follows: 'As the title of the book implies I have narrated my recollections of facts and events in the spheres of law, politics, legislatures, education and local self government in which I have played my part for more than fifty years and my reflections on such facts and events. This accurately defines the range of the contents of the book. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad is a well known public man of great reputation. He belongs to the 'liberal' school of Indian Politics and one of its staunchest exponents. He has attained the ripe age of 81 and thus belongs to the illustrious company of octogenarians, who fortunately for us, still continue to shed their lustre upon our country, like Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Sir M Visveswaraya and Sir P S Sivaswami Iyer.

He has preserved in an extraordinary degree the virility of his intellectual powers and his book furnishes food for profound thought and mature reflection. He has filled many distinguished roles during his long and eventful life, as one of the leading Indian lawyers, as a member of the Corporation of Bombay, as a Judge of the Bombay High Court, as a Senator and later Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University and as a member of the Executive Council of the Government of Bombay. The completion of 50 years of his career as a member of the Bombay Bar was fittingly celebrated in February 1937 and a portrait of his

was placed in the Bombay High Court library and a bust of his was presented to the University of Bombay. *The Times of India* made then certain noteworthy observations on the public life of Sir Chimanlal Setalvad which are worth repetition. The paper said: "Both within and outside his profession Sir Chimanlal has lived a broad rather than an intensive life. What has secured him warm place in the regard and esteem of his colleagues is his breadth of outlook and friendliness of spirit along with a certain simplicity of nature, which enabled him in spite of all honours and distinctions that have come to him to mix easily with all and sundry and take a genuine interest in the little affairs of lesser men." 'He is among the few survivors of that school of realists and humanists who strove to rear the fabric of Indian politics upon the broad foundations of tolerance and understanding, sweet reasonableness and ordered progress." The reminiscences of his career at the Bar and of the great judges and lawyers of Bombay are very interesting reading. His anecdotes about incidents in the Bar reveal his sturdy independence even as a junior in the profession and his courageous upholding of the prestige and privileges of the profession. His observations upon the many problems of Indian politics indicate his sincerity, courage of conviction and ripe wisdom.

He is one of that small number of leading men who, early in their professional life before they attained success in it took genuine interest in public work and attained eminence in both. This is what he himself says about it: "When I plunged into the

*An Autobiography—By Sir Chimanlal Setalvad. Padma Publications Ltd. Bombay.

various public activities above mentioned, I was warned by several friends that Law was a jealous mistress and that if I diverted part of my time and energies to public work I would suffer in my profession. I however took the risk. One would wish many more lawyers would take such risks. I had the privilege of meeting him at Madras during the Sessions of the National Liberal Federation in the last week of December 1941. He impressed me with his courtesy and dignified bearing. He told me he was a friend of my father and had a great regard for him. He mentions in his book with legitimate pride that his son Mr Motilal Setalvad was offered the Chief Justiceship of the Bombay High Court but that he was not inclined to accept it.

It is necessary to refer to the suggestion Sir Chimanlal Setalvad has made for the solution of the communal tangle in Indian Politics. He suggests for a temporary period the formation of coalition Governments both in the Provinces and in the Centre. He advocates full Provincial autonomy and though reluctantly, even residuary powers in the provinces. But he says that these measures should be taken for the purpose of restoring confidence and trust among all classes with the firm determination that as early as possible the element of religion should be eliminated from politics, and political parties should be formed entirely on programmes and principles.

We have great pleasure in commending the book to the reading public.

THE NEW INTERIM GOVERNMENT

AFTER a great deal of bluff and threat of direct action the Muslim League has thought it wise to join the Interim Government. But the sense of relief and satisfaction at the prospect of a truly National Government at the Centre is somewhat restrained as the manner of the League's entry is not quite straight. The League has joined the Government on the identical terms offered by the Congress. But Mr Jinnah has chosen to say that he accepts the Viceroy's offer and not the Congress. We do not grudge him this petty triumph of tactics. But why this backdoor entry when the Congress welcomes the League with open arms? Anyway all's well that ends well and we hope that the new experience of working together for a common cause will ensure co-operation and peace.

MR. JINNAH'S NOMINEES TO THE CABINET
It will be noticed that Mr Jinnah himself stands aloof probably feeling that

he cannot parley on equal terms with Pandit Nehru and his colleagues! Perhaps he himself will enter the Cabinet when he can make sure of the Vice Presidency. It is a petty matter. For the Congress has always offered him the highest place in its gift as the price of unity and concerted action. Apart from that his nominees with the exception of Mr Liaquat Ali are mediocrities and seem to have been chosen because they had emitted fire and brimstone. They do not seem to know their own minds. They are blowing hot and cold. But the Congress having agreed to accept Mr Jinnah's nominees it is not its business to question his choice. If they make a pitiful exhibition of their ineptitude or incompetence to the task to which they have been called so much the worse for them. But then what business has an avowedly communal organisation like the League to nominate a member of the scheduled class? Why should the

Viceroy allow this mischief? Everybody will be happy indeed if the League should really be able to discard its narrow communalism and adopt well defined political principles and programmes but this sudden concern for the poor Harijan is suspect. Is it a foretaste of the Jinnah Ambedkar Churchill stunt in the offing? It will not work. The move will defeat itself as the Muslims realise that their leader is merely cutting the nose to spite the face.

CABINET RESPONSIBILITY

It is a pity Mr Jinnah cannot make up with his own compatriots but could easily take orders from the British Viceroy. Such is his malignity that he would not tolerate a fellow countryman but meekly submit to direction from the Governor General whom only the other day he called an underling. Different times different manners!

We hope with the allocation of portfolios all outstanding grievances and differences at least so far as the working of the Interim Government is concerned is settled and that the Cabinet will set to work in the right spirit of amity and earnestness. Woe to the country if the bickerings are to be carried to the Cabinet itself. There is great need for patience and goodwill on the part of all concerned but if the Cabinet is to divide itself on every question it will be a queer Government indeed. And how to avoid it if one section should seek for joint and collective responsibility as a team while the other section should secede and look abroad for guidance? Lord Wavell must know the democratic procedure and if he wants smooth sailing he will doubtless look to the proper working of the Cabinet team. If divisions persist there could be no team work and team work is of the essence of Cabinet Government in a democratic polity. We can not have two Governments staring at each other across the table.

THE SETTLEMENT

The settlement now announced is believed to have been made possible mainly by

the assurance—conveyed through the Viceroy—that the League's entry is actuated by a spirit of co-operation and the will to work in harmony and that the League has accepted the long term proposal with particular reference to participation in the Constituent Assembly.

It is my desire and hope said Lord Wavell in his broadcast appeal that all elements in the Government shall work together in harmony both in dealing with the present pressing problems of India and in furthering the formation of a new constitution which will enable the British Government to complete the transfer of power to India.

As the Viceroy truly pointed out in his letter to Mr Jinnah "A coalition Government either works by a process of mutual adjustment or does not work at all. Lord Wavell having made this clear to Mr Jinnah his acceptance of office definitely means his acceptance of this condition. He can not get away from its implication if he wants to participate in the new Government though his henchmen may talk about it and about to cover up the retreat.

Now that a settlement has been reached, Congress leaders are not disposed to examine the details too meticulously. They feel confident on the other hand that working together on the Executive and facing the Legislature, and evolving common policies will bring about rapid changes producing a spirit of co-operation. There may be crucial difficulties but not so formidable as not to yield to tactful and generous treatment.

We are glad to have Mr Liaquat's assurance at the Press Conference in Delhi.

I want to make it clear that it is our intent and determination to work in harmony with our colleagues in the Executive Council. We have no desire that this Government should become an arena of strife. We have enough of strife outside in the country and we want that strife outside to end.

We welcome this assurance and trust there will be no deviation from this wholesome rule.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By 'AN INDIAN JOURNALIST'

Pandit Nehru's Visit to the Tribal Area

ONE of the first things that Pandit Nehru did, after taking charge of External affairs and Commonwealth relations, was to come to grips with the problem of the tribes of the North West Frontier. He would do nothing without personal contact with the tribal men and getting to know their own mind. It would appear he was warned by the Political department against taking such a risk as a personal tour of the tribal area. The Governor of the Frontier, and the Viceroy himself seem to have expressed their misgivings as to the result of any such adventure. But Nehru had made up his mind and any way the problem must be solved. In this he was assisted by such warm and tried friends as Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the Frontier Gandhi and his brother Dr. Khan Sahab, the Premier. The three of them made it a point to meet the tribal chiefs and men in their own villages, addressed Jirgas and otherwise came in direct contact with them so as to help them stand on their own legs, and live the free and independent life they value so much.

Obstacles to Nehru's Goodwill Mission.

But no good work is done without its being suspected and misinterpreted by mischief mongers. We cannot say how far it is justified, but Khan Ghaffar Khan, who must know his countrymen well, seems to be convinced that certain members of the Political department and its agents had been busy sowing mischief and that the Muslim League and its henchmen in the Frontier were doing all they could to incite the tribesmen against the "Kafir". These ignorant men were made to believe the absurd story that congressmen were responsible for the bombing of their area—bombing which the Nehru Government lost no time in stopping at once. The result was that the Pandit was at certain places insulted by black flag demonstrations and at one place was actu-

ally hit and injured along with Khan Sahab and Ghaffar Khan. Addressing the Red Shirts at Sardaryabkhan, Ghaffar Khan said:

We must accept the challenge of the Britishers who are conspiring to incite a civil war among us Pathans. We must call a representative Jirga of Pathans.

Referring to the attack on Pandit Nehru's party outside the Malakand Fort, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan said:

'They wanted to kill us. I have seen through the whole game. Yesterday the Political Agent of Malakand, Nawab Mahbub Ali, came to Peshawar and the whole plot was hatched. I hold every Britisher morally responsible for the attempt on our lives.'

It is a pitiful tale of folly and ignorance which causes more regret than anger that they should be the victim of traducers who, safe themselves, are doing the greatest injury to the poor tribesmen who know not what they do.

The Pandit's Resolve

But neither the Pandit nor the National Government of India could be deflected from the right course by such petty obstructions. Our duty is clear. It can not wait on the pleasure of interested obscurantists, who are out to incite the fanatics to a "holy war". We shall not waver in the supreme task of emancipation.

"If drops of our blood fell on Pathan soil today," said Pandit Nehru.

'I regard them as the seed which will bring good to all of us—Pathans and to India. For the last five or six days I have tasted some sweet and bitter experiences. Many persons tried to stop me and they said: Don't go to the Tribal Area, but I felt it my duty to go. We had gone there with a message of love to meet the people. Some people tried to create disturbance and stones were thrown. We had left the arrangement to those whose duty it was to make the arrangements. But what kind of arrangements were made?'

"Certain groups and bodies," said Pandit Nehru, "are laying the foundation of their work on mutual hatred and spite. I warn that those who point to the path of fight will get fight". Pandit Nehru added:

'I went to the tribal area and I will go again. We fought the biggest Empire in the world without faltering. We cannot be deterred by goondas, hooligans and stone throwers'.

Noakhali Atrocities

The echoes of the Calcutta riot have hardly died down ere we have reports of massacres more dire and disastrous still. Harrowing tales of murder, loot and arson which make the great Calcutta killing pale into insignificance have occurred in Noakhali and Tipperah districts.

Mr Ashutosh Lahiri, General Secretary, All India Hindu Mahasabha says after visiting the scene of the tragedy

In an area consisting of about 250 square miles the inhabitants surrounded by riotous mobs are being massacred their houses burnt their womenfolk forcibly carried away and thousands subjected to forcible conversion. The number of people massacred has to be counted not in hundreds but in thousands.

And yet the Governor of Bengal sends the comforting report to Parliament that the death figures are 'low' and do not exceed "the three figure category"

It is sad to think that "such events have been possible in spite of the lesson of the great Calcutta killing, and the timely warning given to the authorities about the alarming situation developing in the affected areas

One is tempted to ask if there is any organised government in that ill-fated province or is it only organised hooliganism that is rampant!

Col Reed at the Blackpool Conference

When the Blackpool Conference of Conservatives invited Col D M Reed to have his say on the Indian question they little bargained for what was in store for them. The Colonel who had just then returned home, after a long and successful business career in Madras was doubtless expected to repeat the usual homilies about Britain's great burden in India and how well that burden is being borne by her deputies. But the India returned Colonel proved a veritable *infant terrible*, when he gave out some home truths that must have sorely disturbed the placid Tory mind. For the first time the party heard an avowed Conservative and one who is the adopted Conservative candidate for a

Norfolk constituency, tell the Party hierarchy that its attitude towards India was wrong.

In India to day there is great hatred of the Conservative Party (cries of dissent). That is true, that is a fact and what is more there is a great love for the Labour Party which is held in affection.

Amid growing cries of dissent Mr Reed went on

I tell you, it is true. Whose fault it is is not for me to say. As a good Conservative I do not like having to say it, but it is true and it is my duty to say what I know to be true. It is my duty also to pay a great tribute to the magnificent work of Lord Wavell and F M Auchinleck.

For the first time in our history we have two great Britons who are trusted by the people of India and who are doing their terrific job grandly.

Mr Reed then dropped the notes from which he was speaking and said

There are no good. I shall have to tell you what I know. I cannot make a set speech. There is nothing wrong with the Congress Party. That party is the Conservative Party of India. It stands for liberty and democracy.

There were shouts of protest.

"Yes it does," asserted Mr Reed "I have to tell you these things whether you like them or not because they are true."

India's Foreign Policy

Mrs Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Head of the Indian Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly told the United Nations Assembly in New York

We in India have pursued steadfastly, often at great cost, the goal of freedom of peoples to which this great organisation is dedicated.

"We have yet to achieve our independence but we have travelled so far along the road of freedom that to day for the first time India's delegate to an international Assembly is briefed and accredited by a National Government and appeals with a full sense of responsibility and authority vested in that Government by the confidence and sanctions of our people."

"Hitherto as a dependent country, Mrs Pandit said "our relations with the rest of the world were perforce not of our choice or making. To day the Government of India have announced the outlines of an independent foreign policy."

We believe that peace and freedom are indivisible and denial of freedom anywhere must lead to conflict and war. We repudiate utterly the Nazi doctrine of racialism whatsoever and in whatever form it may be practised. We seek no domination over others; we claim no privileged position over all peoples but we do claim equal and honourable treatment for our people wherever they may go and we cannot accept any discrimination against them.

NEW LIGHT ON THE INDIAN PROBLEM
By Swami Dharma Theertha, B.A., LL.B.,
"Freedom Booklet" Series No 3
Happy Home Publications, Lahore

This booklet in 77 pages is an ambitious study by the author, seeking to prove that the Cabinet Mission achieved nothing, that the Congress is a purely Hindu organisation, and that the Muslims are smarting under a righteous indignation which justifies their claim for Pakistan. The book opens with an attempt to attract attention by doing something that is out of the way but closes with the pathos of a self-revealing propaganda in favour of the anti-Hindu Thiyya movement in Travancore State. The author's name provides sufficient concealment of his real identity. Place of publication is further corroboration for this concealed identity and above all he cleverly manages to utilise the Cabinet Mission as a stick with which to beat the Hindu. The internal evidence discloses the fact that the author is a Thiyya convert to Sikhism from Travancore along with many

others of his community during the temple entry movement in the state and that, finding no proper stage within the state for any more anti-Hindu propaganda under the nose of Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, and no more vitality for the Thiyya agitation after the generous Proclamation from the Maharajah in favour of temple entry he goes all the way to Lahore from Travancore, and launches an attack against the Hindus as a champion of the Muslim cause

MUSLIM POLITICS IN INDIA By Prof
Binayendra Mohan Chowdhry, MA
Oriental Book Co, Calcutta Price Rs 3

Prof Chowdhry furnishes a very fine back ground for the clear understanding of the intricate Muslim Politics of India to day, by tracing the history of the Muslim India from 1820 up to date

The book also gives out in clear cut lines the pros and cons of the Pakistan theory. Prof Chowdhry's easy style adds to the value of the chosen subject

BOOKS RECEIVED

CONGRESS AND THE MASSES By Dr H. C. Mookerjee M.A. Ph.D. The Book House Calcutta
VERDICT ON BRITAIN By Prof J. S. Bright
Dewan's Publications Lahore

RECONSTRUCTION OF LIFE AND POLITY IN KATHIAWAR STATES By Kavalram C. Oza Jagnath
1101 Rajkot

WOMEN AND SOCIETY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES By
A. C. Banerjee P.O. Gariahat 24 Parganas
TRIGARAJA A SCREEN PLAY By B. V. P. Bangalore
Printing and Publishing Company Bangalore

Shakh Muhammad Asraf Lahore
6 As each

FISCAL FABRIC By Ahmad Shafi

PAKISTAN LITERATURE SERIES

POLITICAL REGIONAL DIVISION OF INDIA By
Dr. K. M. Saifuddin Ahmad

IS INDIA GEOGRAPHICALLY ONE By Dr. Kazi
Saifuddin Ahmad

THE DOVE FOUND NO REST A Novel of Peasant
India By Dennis Gray Stoll Victor Collange Ltd
London

A FOOD PLAN FOR INDIA With a Foreword by
Prof. A. V. Hill Oxford University Press

THE A B C OF CENTRAL BANKING By Nawab
Mir Nawaz Jung and S. Kesava Iyengar
The Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd.,
Bangalore City Rs 20

Hindustan Publications (Bombay):

WHAT I OWE TO GANDHI AND CONGRESS
By M. D. Jaleeth

I FOUGHT FOR MY COUNTRY'S FREEDOM By
Chitra P. Mehta

OF USE TO WORKERS AND VOTERS By
Llocton Campaigner

**SOME NON-POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
CONGRESS** By Dr. H. C. Mookerjee M.A. Ph.D.
MLA

DIARY OF THE MONTH

— 0 —

- Oct 1 Prohibition inaugurated in 8 districts of Madras
—Seven Calcutta papers suspend publication as a protest against Government order regarding riot news
- Oct 2 Twelve leading Nazis get death sentence in Neuremberg trials, the rest go to prison for life
- Oct 3 Mr V K Menon Pandit Nehru's personal envoy meets M Molotov
- Oct 4 Calcutta Mail disaster near Ongole station resulting in serious casualties
- Oct 5 Blackpool Conference Churchill accuses Labour Govt for liquidating Empire
- Oct 6 Nehru Jinnah meeting at Nawab of Bhopal's
—Pandit Nehru replies to Blackpool resolution
- Oct 7 Mr Bevin clarifies British aims at Paris Conference
- Oct 8 S I chamber and other bodies protest against Madras Premier's view of Mill industries
—Ghaffar Khan deplores talks with Jinnah and accuses Viceroy of trying to hinder Interim Government
- Oct 9 Defence member outlines Army plans for future
- Oct 10 Kumaraswami Raja in a statement on Madras Textile policy, accepts Cabinet decision as binding
- Oct 11 S I Millowners urge revision of Government's textile policy
- Oct 12 Gen Smuts warns UNO against interference in domestic politics
- Oct 13 Mrs Pandit challenges Smuts statement and says SA Indian issue is not a domestic one
—League decides to join Interim Government.
- Oct 14 Sir Manubhai Mehta passes away
—Fourth French Republic installed
- Oct 15 League nominations to Interim Government announced
—Atrocities in Noakhali
- Oct 16 Pandit Nehru visits Frontier
—Nazi leaders executed Goering commits suicide
- Oct 17 Transvaal nationalists demand repatriation of Indians
- Oct 18 Dr L C Jain appointed Political Envoy in Japan
- Oct 19 Mr Kripalani and party visit Noakhali riot areas
- Oct 20 Nehru's party visit Khyber Pass
- Oct 21 Dr Ram Manohar Lohia defies Goa ban once again
—Pandit Nehru explains purpose of visit to N W F
- Oct 22 Status of Embassies in Delhi and Washington raised
- Oct 23 Watell Nehru exchange of letters re allocation of Portfolios in Central Government
- Oct 24 Congress Working Committee resolution on Bengal situation
- Oct 25 League enters Interim Government
Redistribution of portfolios
—Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit addresses U N Assembly
- Oct 26 League members sworn in
- Oct 27 UNO steering Committee rejects Gen Smuts' plea to eliminate S A Indian question
- Oct 28 Gandhi and Nehru congratulate Mrs Pandit and Mr Chagla on Preliminary success in U N Assembly
- Oct 29 Wavell Jinnah correspondence released
- Oct 30 Mahatma Gandhi meets Bengal Governor at Calcutta
—M Molotov supports India in U N O Assembly
- Oct 31 Dr M A Rauf is appointed India Government's Envoy in Burma



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



PUNISHMENT OF CRIME

John B. Waite, writing in *Harper's Magazine*, invites our attention to the ineffectiveness rather than the inhumanity of the primitive approach to crime in his article—"Revenge costs too much." Penologists in India may be interested in his findings. He cites statistical evidence that punishment fails to deter even its victims from further crimes, to say nothing of its not deterring others. Over half the inmates of United States penitentiaries have been in penitentiaries at least once before.

Crime *can* be more effectively checked. But not by tinkering with the penal laws. Those laws must be boldly discarded. Crime must no longer be defined as an act which is punishable, but as something which demonstrates that the criminal is socially dangerous.

From this approach, the illogic of awarding for a successful crime attempt twice the punishment of an unsuccessful one must be apparent.

Not punishment, but being "treated in a manner designed to prevent further injurious activity" is the need. This means, *inter alia*, "to keep relative innocence apart from contaminating viciousness." It means finding, if possible, the cause of criminality and eliminating it by any humane method, which in some cases may not involve imprisonment at all. Under proper safeguards against abuse of power, a qualified commission should, Professor Waite holds, be allowed wide latitude, extending even to the segregation of its wards as long as they are dangerous to society.

Especially important is his protest against the heartless indifference to the newly released convict's fate in the critical period when "prevention demands every reasonable provision for helping the individual to abstain" from further crime.

COMEDY IN SIND

Whilst North-east India was blood-soaked with tragedy, North-west India was alight with a rare political comedy, writes the *New Review*. Politicians are busy devoting their attention to their own little tug-of-war. The Assembly of Sind counts sixty members, among whom a few are wont to cross the floor with more alacrity than conviction. The Muslim League Ministry could on most days rely on thirty members, including three Europeans and the non-voting Speaker. The Opposition could muster an equal crew and confidently put forth a no-confidence motion. The Ministry effected a tactical retreat; the Speaker resigned, and armed with his recovered vote he was to reinforce the Ministry from the rear. The Deputy Speaker, a woman of the opposition, was forced to take the chair; the Ministry had then a majority of thirty to twenty-nine. But with feminine intuition the Deputy-Speaker immediately adjourned the meeting, and resigned. The deadlock was perfect; thirty against thirty, no Speaker, no Deputy-Speaker. The three members who were forming a panel of spare chairmen refused the distinction of presiding at the meetings; four ministers had also resigned so as to rally some waverers. The epidemic of self-denial had emptied the House; the Governor dissolved the Assembly and decreed new elections.

The electoral campaign is in full swing, and the issue is very important.

Sind is a key-piece in the Pakistan jigsaw-puzzle, this distinction has so far proved distasteful to a large section of the Mohammedan majority. It is most unlikely that the electorate will give a decisive

ORGANISATION AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Monastic or religious organizations are the storehouses and transmitters of spiritual knowledge, writes the Editor in the September issue of *Prabuddha Bharata*. They keep burning the ideal of God realization which so often tends to be lost sight of by men and women in their headlong rush to enjoy the pleasures of the world. 'When violence, ignorance, greed, and lust tend to overpower the world, the life of spiritual men acts as a soothing light and makes the rest of mankind realize that they too can rise higher. All human institutions are liable to decline and decay in the course of time, monastic and other religious organizations are not exceptions to these rules. But no such institution need perish if it holds steadfast to its ideal and purges itself of unfit persons who would enter its portals only to lower its ideal. Monastic and religious organizations it is true cannot function in a vacuum. They form a part of society as a whole and they have to work in, through, and for society. In so doing there is no phase of life in which they may not make their entry. In a spirit of true Karma Yoga monks and religious men can do work in the world with a view to uplift mankind, whether the work be in the field of education, literature, temperance, medical relief, or social reform. As the Gita says, 'By doing all work as worship to the Eternal, from which all this universe has arisen, and which permeates all this universe, a man reaches perfection.'

It is the glory of organizations devoted to the spiritual life, concludes the writer, that they preserve a continuity of tradition and maintain that harmony of spiritual methods suited to different human temperaments.

'Social service is but one of the several ways in which one can develop and express one's love of God, nor is social service an end in itself. God realization is the end, and social service, a contemplative life, a life of prayer and formal worship are all equally respectable and well tried paths for God realization.

THE MISUSE OF WORDS

Writing in *Horizon*, George Orwell condemns the misuse of English by modern decadents. Once a powerful weapon of pure, musical speech, apt for all occasions, it has now, in the hands of some writers, come to a pretty bad stage. Mr Orwell writes:

"The slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts. To think clearly is a necessary first step toward political regeneration so that the fight against bad English is not frivolous and is not the exclusive concern of professional writers."

Orwell wonders how a 20th Century master of these "swindles and perversions" might have written this passage, in *Ecclesiastes*:

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill, but time and chance happeneth to them all.

A modern "swindler," says Orwell, would probably turn it out like this:

Objective consideration of contemporary phenomena compels the conclusion that success or failure in competitive activities exhibits no tendency to be commensurate with innate capacity, but that considerable element of the unpredictable must invariably be taken into account.

Politicians and pamphleteers, says Orwell, let their words fall upon the facts like soft snow, blurring the outlines and covering up all the details. Political language is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind.

Specifically, Orwell would do away with such 'dying metaphors' as *toe the line*, *ride roughshod over*, *play into the hands of*, *stand shoulder to shoulder with*, such "verbal false limbs" as *make contact with*, *play a leading role in*, *serve the purpose of* and such "pretentious diction" as *phenomenon*, *constitute*, *epoch making*, *unforgettable*, *ancient regime*, *status quo*. And he would clearly define or do without such "meaningless words" as *realistic*, *sentimental*, *fascism*, *democracy*, *progressive*, *reactionary*.

REMINISCENCES OF AN ARTIST

Under the above title, the *Vistva-Dharati Quarterly* publishes a short account of the remarkable meeting of two great artists—Sister Nivedita and Abanindranath Tagore. It is an extract from the book *Jorasankor Dhare* by Abanindranath Tagore and Ramee Chanda containing their reminiscences. Few Indians are aware that Nivedita was more Indian than most Indians, that she was an indefatigable worker in the cause of Indian women, and that she was actively interested in the revival of Oriental arts. She was a passionate lover of India *par excellence*. These reminiscences of Nivedita by one who himself possessed the requisite perspicacity and aestheticism to understand and appreciate her talent, give an intimate picture of this gifted Western disciple of Swami Vivekananda. In the words of Abanindranath Tagore: 'She is indeed indescribable. I have not seen her second yet.'

Those from foreign lands who have ever loved India—among them Nivedita's place is indeed the highest. In the modest dwelling in Baghbazar, we would visit her now and then. And what a love she had for Nandalal and my other pupils! How she would encourage them in their work! It was she who sent Nandalal to Ajanta to complete his training. It came about this way.

Mrs. Herringham had come to Ajanta and Nivedita suggested to me that I should send my pupils there to help her copy the frescoes. 'Such an opportunity comes but seldom. It should never be allowed to slip off. It would benefit both the parties.' And she offered to write to Mrs. Herringham. The latter's reply, however, was rather disappointing. She had already had some artists brought from Bombay, the Bengali artists were unknown to her, they were inexperienced, etc., etc. But Nivedita was not the person to give up once she had made up her mind. She was convinced it would do my young pupils good. So she wrote to Mrs. Herringham again, and asked me, in the mean time to arrange for their journey. I sent Nandalal and a few others at my own expense. After they had left, however, I began to grow anxious. They were, after all, inexperienced youngsters and should anything happen to them, away from their home in that far off jungle-infested place—the responsibility was rough too heavy. That is how I felt about it. So I ran again to Nivedita and told her what was in my mind. "They are mere boys, as you know, and they have nobody to look after them, or to look after them," Nivedita asked me not to worry. She would see about everything making And so she did. She at once set about making arrangements for their comfort there. Ganendra Brahmachari was sent to look after them. She also sent a cook along with him, with enough

provisions and stores. I felt relieved. But for her, it is doubtful whether Nandalal and those others could ever have had an opportunity of studying the frescoes at Ajanta. It was a great work she did.

I met her first at the American Consulate—at a reception in honour of Okakura, where Nivedita was also present. She wore the long white robes of the Brahmacharin, reaching down to her ankles, and she had a string of small Rudraksha beads round her neck. She verily looked like a statue of the vestal virgin of old, done in white marble. The party was in honour of Okakura, but the attention of those present was divided between him on one side and Nivedita on the other—two stars in the firmament converging upon one centre, as it were. How else can I describe it?

CONGRESS AND THE COMMUNISTS

How can we counteract the activities of the communists who are openly opposing the Congress?

This was one of the questions put to Gandhiji at a meeting of the presidents and secretaries of the various Provincial Congress Committees held at Delhi at the time of the secret A.I.C.C. session.

Gandhiji's reply as recorded by Pyarelal in *Harijan* was:

The Communists seem to have made trouble-shooting their profession. I have friends among them. Some of them are like sons to me. But it seems they do not make any distinction between fair and foul, truth and falsehood. They deny the charge. But their reported acts seem to sustain it. Moreover, they seem to take their instructions from Russia, whom they regard as their spiritual home rather than India.

I cannot countenance this dependence on an outside power. I have even said that we should not depend even on Russian wheat in our present food crisis. We must have the ability and courage to subsist on what our soil can give us rather than depend on foreign charity. . . .

I would accept them only to the extent that I can assimilate them and adapt them to the Indian scene. But I must refuse to go under them.

My formula for the Communists, therefore, is that I would prefer to die at their hands, but I will not retaliate.

THE NEGRO IN AMERICA

The last eighty years in the United States may be characterized as a period within which the Negro has been struggling for moral status in the sight of the white community. It has been a painful, and for the Negro often a disillusioning, effort, says Frank Tannenbaum in the *Political Science Quarterly*.

"But it cannot be denied that great progress has been made and that the moral position of the Negro within the United States is to day much better than it was in 1865, after emancipation. The nature of our problem is conditioned by the time it will take for the Negro to have acquired a moral personality equal to his legal one. How long that will take is not predictable, but what is generally called the "solution" of the Negro problem is essentially a matter of establishing the Negro in the sight of the white community as a human being equal to itself."

When that finally occurs then the problem will have solved itself. It will have disappeared. But such an eventuality is a matter of time.

"The first Negroes were brought to Portugal in 1442, and in considerable numbers following that date, while the first Negro slaves to reach Virginia came in 1619, a hundred and seventy seven years later. It will be the year 2123 before the people of the United States will have had as long a contact with the Negro as the Latin Americans now have. Taking the progress that has been made in the eighty years since emancipation, there is some hope that the Negro will, in time, have achieved in the United States as good a relationship as he now enjoys in Latin America. In fact, it may not be unreasonable to assume that the Negro in the United States, because of the greater opportunities available in our midst, will have forged morally a position no less favorable, and economically a better one, long before he has filled the time span of his sojourn among the Iberian people."

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN ENGLAND

Instances of religious persecution are frequent in the history of England. Protestant rulers subjected their Catholic subjects to severe trials and penalties and Catholics in their turn, when in power, inflicted no little hardship on the Protestants. A writer in the *New Review*, discussing the inquisitorial chambers of horror, describes the position of the Catholic victims in the reign of Elizabeth.

'Hallam writes in his *Constitutional History* "The rack seldom stood in the Tower for all the latter part of Elizabeth's reign". Not only the rack but also the scavenger's daughter (i.e., the "iron hoop") the iron gaunlets, and a cell called 'Little Ease', which was of so small dimensions, and so constructed, that the prisoner could neither stand, walk, sit, nor lie in it at full length. He was obliged to draw himself up in a squatting posture, and so remained during several days (Lingard Bellocc vi, 688 689). There was also a dungeon called the *Lumbo*, which, according to Jardine, is described as a cell below high water mark and totally dark. 'As the tide flowed, innumerable rats, which infest the muddy banks of the Thames, were driven through the crevices of the walls into the dungeon. The alarm excited by the irruption of these loathsome creatures in the dark, was the least part of the torture which the unfortunate captives had to undergo, instances are related, which humanity would undergo, instances are related, which humanity would gladly be lieve to be the exaggerations of Catholic partisans, where the flesh has been torn from the arms and legs of prisoners during sleep by the well known voracity of these animals (Jardine, *On the Use of Torture*, p 26)'

Such was the outcry on the continent against the cruelty practised on Catholics in the spacious times of Queen Elizabeth that some attempts were made at white washing the fiends responsible for it

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

HYDERABAD REFORMS

As a result of the free and frank discussion of the various aspects of the Reforms Scheme that took place on October 9, when Sir Mirza Ismail, President of the Nizam's Executive Council and Nawab Moim Nawaz Jung, the Reforms Member, saw Pandit Ramachari, Mr. Kashinath Rao Vaidya and Mr. Narsing Rao of the Hyderabad State Congress, the differences which the Congress had with the Government in respect of the Reforms Scheme have been reduced to a minimum.

The United Press understands that Sir Mirza Ismail assured the Congress leaders that the powers of the Legislature would be enlarged on the lines demanded by the State Congress and other parties.

CIVIL LIBERTIES IN HYDERABAD

"Sir Mirza M. Ismail is a statesman of vision, and we are sure that with mutual goodwill and understanding, Hyderabad will take its proper place in Indian polity," says a statement issued by Pandit Anand Priyaje and Mr. G. V. Ramachar, the Working President and Vice-President of the All-India States Hindu Mahasabha respectively, who formed a delegation which waited on Sir Mirza Ismail recently.

STATES NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

H. E. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad has sanctioned the following nominations to various committees in connection with constitutional discussions, announces a Government communique:

President of the Executive Council—Negotiating Committee.

Constitutional Member—Consulative Committee, Major States Organisation and Ministers Committee.

Judicial Member—Constitutional Advisory Committee and Legal Sub-Committee.

Finance Member—Financial Sub-Committee.

Baroda

BARODA DEWAN ON STATES PARTICIPATION

Indian States will participate in the Constituent Assembly even if some members from British India chose to be absent from it, Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, said in a recent interview to the Associated Press of India.

The following is the text of Sir B. L. Mitter's statement:

"The Constituent Assembly, envisaged in Paragraphs 17 to 19 on the Cabinet Mission's statement has been elected by British India. The States have set up a Negotiating Committee to represent the States in the preliminary stage of the Constituent Assembly on December 9.

"Meanwhile the Interim Government has been set up and is carrying on the administration. There is nothing to prevent the States from participating in the Constituent Assembly due to meet on December 9. I think the States ought to participate even if some members from British India choose to be absent. Such absence may render the task of the constitution-making difficult, but difficulties should not be allowed to hold up the task indefinitely.

"The States have harder tasks to tackle. Their treaties have to be revised. The Crown's obligations under Paramountcy will have to be replaced by adequate provisions in consultation with British India. Matters of common concern will have to be discussed with the Interim Government. In fact diverse questions involved in the change-over will demand close attention of the States. It would be folly on their part to wait for the settlement of communal controversies of British India in which they have no concern. They should get along with the work which bristles with difficulties and hasten the dawn of Indian freedom."

Mysore

DEWAN ON GOVT S PLAN

Addressing the Dasara session of the Mysore Representative Assembly which commenced last month Sir Arcot Ramaswami Mudaliar the Dewan reviewed the industrial and economic needs of the State and the steps taken to meet the food shortage. After referring to the post war plans of the Government he appealed to the people to cultivate a spirit of tolerance.

The problems the Dewan President stated that existed in British India might not and often were not the same as in Mysore. The passions that had been roused there might not find equal justification in this State. The insistence on similarity and the raising of slogans and catch words which lost their real significance and certainly their potency in the atmosphere of Mysore might perhaps lead them further from that increased association of the representatives of the people with the Government in the administration of the State which successive Rulers had stated to be their cherished and declared policy.

MYSORE AND THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

Congress members who walked out of the Mysore Representative Assembly on September 30 returned to the House after the Dewan President Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar had delivered his opening address and they participated in the deliberations.

An urgent resolution on the Interim Government moved by Mr Hanumanthiah Leader Congress Party read: This Assembly expresses great pleasure at the formation of the Interim Government at the Centre by national leaders under the leadership of Pandit Nehru after a long period of unquiet suffering and sacrifice and offers heartiest congratulations to the Interim Government on the happy occasion.

The whole House except the Muslim League members voted for the resolution.

Travancore

THE STATE CONGRESS

The following statement by Mr Pattom Thanu Pillai has been issued on the authority of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan and it is understood this represents an agreed version of the discussion between the Dewan and Messrs Pattom Thanu Pillai and T. M. Verghese.

The statement says:

Mr T. M. Verghese and myself (Pattom Thanu Pillai) interviewed Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar the Dewan on October 13 at 'Bhakti Vilas'. The conversation mainly related to the question of constitutional reforms in the State, reference being made also to the All India political situation. We urged that full Responsible Government under the aegis of the Maharaja should be established in the State. The Dewan insisted that the Executive should be irremovable during the term of the Legislature. We then pointed out that in any event the executive should be constituted from the majority party in the Legislature. The Dewan was definite that the choice of the Executive should be in the discretion of the Maharaja and may be from the Legislature or outside it as is the case even in England. He saw no objection however to a full discussion of the matter the only condition insisted on being the irremovability of the Executive merely on the basis of an adverse vote of the Legislature.

FLYING CLUB FOR TRIVANDRUM

In conformity with the scheme to establish Flying Club all over India for the purpose of enabling young men to get instruction in flying a Flying Club has been constituted in Trivandrum.

The object of the Club is to provide opportunities to the members to learn to fly. Provision has been made for flying or non flying memberships. The former category will have facilities for training themselves as pilots.

Bharatpur**POPULAR MINISTERS**

The announcement that three popular Ministers will be elected from among the elected members of the Bharatpur State Assembly, was made by His Highness the Maharajah of Bharatpur State in his Dasara Durbar.

A committee consisting of three members of the Praja Parishad, three of the Kisan Sabha, two of the Anjuman Islamia and of three Government officials has been appointed to submit a report about the constitutional reforms in the State by December 31. Elections to the State Assembly will be held during April on adult franchise.

Alwar**REFORMS COMMISSION FOR ALWAR**

His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar, on the occasion of the Dasara Durbar held on Oct. 3 announced the formation of a committee of four officials and eight non-officials to submit proposals for associating the people in the progressive measures contemplated by the Government the ultimate object being the setting up of a popular Government.

Rewa**REWA REFORMS COMMITTEE**

H. H. the Maharaja of Rewa has appointed Sir Hari Singh Gour as Chairman of the Rewa Constitutional Reforms Committee in the place of Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, who has expressed his inability to undertake the work as he has been elected to the Constituent Assembly.

The other members of the Committee, numbering seven, represent political, commercial, and other interests.

The Committee, according to the terms of reference is required to recommend the form of constitution most suited to the needs of the Rewa State in order to give effect to the announcement made by His Highness to introduce a popular system of Government in the State.

Sangli**REFORMS FOR SANGLI**

All departments which are at present administered by Ministers in British Indian provinces under the Government of India Act, 1935, will be similarly held in Sangli State by Ministers who will be removable by a vote of the State Legislative Assembly, according to new constitutional reforms announced by the Raja Saheb of Sangli.

The State Legislative Assembly will have an elected President and Deputy President and no members will be nominated to the State Assembly in future.

In a proclamation the Raja Sahab also says that the constitutional arrangements now being initiated are of a provisional nature and will be open to reconsideration in the light of the recommendations of a Constitution Committee which he intends to appoint.

Cochin**CABINET GOVERNMENT IN COCHIN**

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nair, Minister for Public Health, Cochin State, met Pandit Nehru on October 11, at New Delhi and conveyed to him the Maharaja's felicitations on his acceptance of office of Vice-Presidentship of the Interim Government.

Pandit Nehru enquired about the working of the State's new constitution and the progress made so far. After the meeting, Pandit Nehru gave him the following message:

"I send my greetings to the Maharaja Sahab, the Ministers and people of Cochin State. I have been watching with interest and pleasure the new constitutional developments in the State. I hope they will be worked fully so that very soon they might lead to full Responsible Government. The working of the Cabinet System in Cochin is especially gratifying. In this matter, Cochin has given a lead to the other States in India, which if they were wise they would follow soon. I congratulate Cochin on it."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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• South Africa

S A INDIAN ISSUE IN U N A

India's protest against the treatment of Indians in South Africa will be discussed at the forthcoming United Nations General Assembly by the Political and Security Committee in item 31 on the Assembly's provisional agenda. But its place in the work of the Political and Security Committee will be decided by the Assembly's General Committee.

The matter is based on the Indian Government's letter of June 22 to the United Nations Secretary General which charged that discrimination against Indians had reached a climax in the Union enactment of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Acts and declared that a situation had arisen likely to impair friendly relations between these countries.

S AFRICANS DEMAND FOR COMPENSATION

A claim for compensation against the South African Government has been lodged by Mr J P Mudlool, a mining engineer who was recently forced to give up his job in the Kolar Gold Fields because he is a South African.

'I am unemployed as a result of the Government's policy,' Mr Mudlool told a Press representative. 'So I think the Government should do something for me.'

MRS PANDIT'S REPLY TO SMUTS

General Smuts' reference to the South African Indian issue and his claim of the 'spiritual leadership of Europe' in his speech at Brussels, were challenged by Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit, leader of the Indian delegation to the United Nations Conference in New York, at a Press Conference at Karachi.

Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit said 'We do not accept the argument he has put forward in his speech. The Indian issue in South Africa is not a domestic issue. We upon it as a human issue of vital

importance which may well lead to a conflict at a later stage.'

Mrs Pandit observed 'We challenge his statement regarding the spiritual leadership of Europe. The emphasis he has given and the fact that he has completely ignored the rest of the world, itself shows that no matter how high sounding his phrases may be, he is not prepared to build up a new world on the foundations of justice which will ensure the peace and prosperity of future generations. There are other countries in the world outside Europe whose contributions to the thought culture and regeneration of the world has been as great if not greater than the contributions ever made by Europe. They cannot be disposed of in this casual fashion. The fate of the world depends upon the recognition of the fact that all nations must co-operate as equals in reshaping the future. If this basic fact is not realised, the human race is doomed. We believe that Asia has a great part to play in the shape of things to come. We are confident that our part will be a worthy one.'

Malaya

INDIANS IN MALAYA

The Commonwealth Relations Department of the Government of India will shortly charter an additional ship to be run between Singapore and India to facilitate the quick repatriation of Indians in Malaya who are desirous of returning to their motherland and are held up for want of transport facilities.

Mr N Raghavan, President, Central Indian Association Malaya, after conferring with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other members of the Indian Government, told the Associated Press of India 'Though nothing much had been done for providing ships and lessening the fares till now, I have been assured by the Government of India that in order to effect a quick solution, they are trying to arrange and charter a ship to be put on the Malaya India run earmarked for the repatriation of Indians from Malaya to this country.'

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

* DEPARTMENTAL

* NOTES

Questions of Importance

THE CONGRESS LEAGUE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

The threat of a crisis over the redistribution of portfolios, among Congress and League Members, in the Interim Government, has passed and a settlement reached, after the Congress Working Committee concluded its three-day session on Oct. 25.

One of the major portfolios namely, Finance, has been assigned to the League team, who also get four other portfolios, namely Commerce, Posts and Air, and Health.

The following Press communique has been issued from the Viceroy's House—

The Portfolios to be held by the representatives of the Muslim League, who have recently been appointed Members of the Interim Government, have been allotted by His Excellency the Governor-General, as follows:—

Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan—Finance.

Mr. I. I. Chundrigar—Commerce.

Mr. Abdur Rab Nishtar—Communications (Posts & Air.)

Mr. Ghaznafar Ali Khan—Health.

Mr. Jogendarnath Mandal—Legislative.

Consequent changes among the other portfolios are as follows:

Dr. John Matthai—Industries and Supplies.

Mr. Rajagopalachari—Education and Arts.

Mr. Bhabha—Works, Mines and Power.

The other portfolios remain as before:

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru—External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel—Home and Information and Broadcasting.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad—Food and Agriculture.

Mr. Asaf Ali—Transport and Railways.

Sardar Baldev Singh—Defence.

Mr. Jagjivanram—Labour.

The new Members, were sworn in at the Cabinet meeting on the 26th October.

CONGRESS ON BENGAL SITUATION

In a strongly-worded resolution on the Bengal situation, the Congress Working Committee express horror and pain at "the scene of bestiality and medieval barbarity, that must fill every decent human being with shame, disgust, and anger", and declare that "this outburst of brutality is the direct result of the politics of hate and civil strife, that the Muslim League has practised for years past, and of the threats of violence that it has daily held out in the past months".

The resolution says, the burden "for permitting a civil calamity of such proportions to befall the people of the province, must rest on the provincial government", and adds: "Further, the Governor and the Governor-General, who claim to possess special responsibilities in such matters, must also share the burden for events in Bengal."

The committee sound a warning against retaliatory outbreaks of communal violence and declare that, communalism can only be fought with nationalism, and not with counter-communalism "which can only end in perpetuating foreign rule."

Utterances of the Day

MRS PANDIT'S MESSAGE

In a message broadcast from Delhi on the eve of her departure, Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit, leader of the Indian delegation to the United Nations Conference, at New York, said

In proceeding to the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation, we are very conscious of the heavy responsibility that has been placed upon us. When the United Nations came into existence the representatives of the Assembly at San Francisco, agreed 'to reaffirm faith in the fundamental human rights in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations, large and small and the world grown weary with much bloodshed and suffering, turned hopeful eyes towards the new organisation, which promised to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours

To day the fundamental rights so recently promised to the peoples of the world are being denied to Indians living in South Africa thus raising a question of moral and human issues which contains the gravest implications for the future peace and progress of the world. The Indian delegations task will be to claim for Indians in South Africa the removal of all the restrictions imposed on them on the grounds of race and colour and ensure to them the fundamental freedoms to which they are entitled

In fighting for those who share this denial of human rights and who suffer under foreign control, India stands for equality between peoples and for the independence of all colonial areas. We believe that an enduring peace cannot be achieved so long as there is discrimination against one race by another. This policy continues to sow the seeds of bitterness and strife in many parts of the globe and must be ended now and for all time, thus making it possible for the peoples of the world to contribute to building up the future. The Indian case in South Africa becomes therefore, a test case not only on the question of human rights but also for the purposes of the principles of the Charter itself

We go to our task hopefully in the knowledge that we carry with us the support and goodwill of the men and women of India. Jai Hind

DIWAN CHAMANLAL'S BROADCAST

Diwan Chamanlal, head of the recent Indian Government Food Mission to Argentina, declared in a broadcast speech from New York on Oct 17 'India can and will play a decisive role in the destiny of the world, divided as it is between two ideologies—the Anglo American and Russian. A resurgent India, free and powerful, building

up her basic industries and key industries, is, and will be in a position to tilt the scales and, therefore, the freedom of India is of vital importance to world peace."

Diwan Chamanlal, who spoke on the subject, 'Indian Situation and World To day', asserted

There can be no doubt, whatsoever, that the future constitution of India will be a Republic probably to be called the United States of India, I anticipate that, by this time next year, the Indian constitution will be in full force. The salvation of India lies in raising the standard of living of her people

Political freedom to us will mean nothing without freedom from hunger, want and insecurity. We have to turn the 75,000 villagers of our land into heavens of peace and civilisation. We have to take the benefits of civilisation and science from the palaces of a few to the homes of the many and this is not merely a national problem. Raising the standard of life of our people must inevitably have its reflex upon the economy of the world

SARDAR PATEL'S ADDRESS

"The Press must have unfettered freedom in the presentation of news and expression of views, but it also has the obligation to preserve the integrity of the State and support the legitimate activities of a popular Government. It must, when occasion demands, help the Government in defeating the forces of disruption. Negatively as well as positively, the Press should discourage unruly elements," said the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Home Member and Member for Information and Broadcasting, addressing the Standing Committee of the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference in New Delhi on October 13

Referring to a suggestion that Government should set up machinery for revision of the Press Laws, to bring them in line with the Press Laws of other free countries, Sardar Patel said, "Government will have no objection to setting up a committee of officials and non officials, including representatives of the Press, with a view to examining the repeal or modification of the laws now in force".

PANDIT NEHRU'S WARNING TO TORIES

In the course of his speech moving a resolution on India, affirming that

it was the duty of the British Parliament to make sure that in any settlement, the right of the minorities and the States should be effectively safeguarded.

Earl Winterton stated at the Conservative Party Conference that

there must be no dominant united Congress rule. There is a tremendous danger to be avoided—that is, the use of British troops as hired mercenaries in preventing communal conflict in India. Why has Pandit Nehru been so silent about the withdrawal of British troops from India? Is it because he wants them to be used in quelling communal disturbances—to be used by an Indian Government over which Whitehall has no control.

Replying to this charge Pandit Nehru said in the course of a statement to the press:

Certain speeches delivered at the British Conservative Party's Conference held at Blackpool indicate a hostile attitude on the part of some leading members of the Party towards the Interim Government of India. Those speeches are irresponsible, full of malice and calculated to stir up strife and prevent unity and settled Government in India.

He goes on to add:

A charge has been made that I am silent about the withdrawal of British troops from India and that we seek to use them for quelling communal disturbances. The charge, as much else in the speeches delivered at Blackpool, is completely false. We do not want to use them for quelling internal disturbances. It was our policy before we took office and it is our policy now to have British troops withdrawn from India immediately or, at any rate, with the greatest possible speed. We do not want them to stay on in India for a day. It is unfair to us and unfair to them to keep them here. I invite leaders of the British Conservative Party to support us in these demands and help in giving effect to them in the immediate future.

While we have expressed our willingness to co-operate with the United Kingdom, I want to make it perfectly clear on behalf of myself and my colleagues in the Government of India that there will be no co-operation with those who adopt an unfriendly attitude towards us or trade with the Independence of India.

FAQIR OF IPI'S ASSURANCE

"No self-respecting and patriotic soul living in the tribal territory who knows the real significance of the teachings of Islam and loves freedom of his country can for a moment have any thing with the British-sponsored Muslim League which is out to strengthen the bonds of slavery of the mother country.

"If a true Muslim can co-operate with any political organisation, he can do so only by joining the Congress, a body of selfless patriots striving hard for the attainment of freedom of India.

"All tribal people, I can assert with confidence and all emphasis at my command, are absolutely with the Indian National Congress."

So declared the Faqir of Ipi at a representative *Jirga* of the various tribal leaders held recently in the Shival Hills.

PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

The Government of India have decided to appoint an Advisory Planning Board to review and co-ordinate the planning work done so far. It will consist of both officials and non-official members.

The work of the Board is expected to be of a temporary character for the present, but it may later become absorbed in a wider and more permanent organisation.

Mr. K. C. Neogy, M.L.A. (Central) will be the Chairman of the Board and its members will include Mr. G. L. Mehta, Dr. Megh Nath Saha, Prof. K. T. Shah, Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, and Dr. Nazir Ahmed. Mr. E. P. Moon will be the Secretary.

A VISITING PROFESSOR FROM AMERICA

The Inter University Board has arranged for a course of lectures by Dr Merle Curti, Visiting Professor under the auspices of the Watumull Foundation. The phases of American History and Civilization on which Dr Curti will lecture include the American People, the Struggle for Independence, Sectionalism and National Unity, the Growth of American Patriotism, the Federal System, the Development of Religious Freedom and Toleration, the Rise of Social Consciousness in America, the Impact of Science and Technology on American Life, American Education and the Organization of Intellectual and Cultural Life, Individualism and Co operation, the United States as a Colonial Power, and the United States and World Peace.

Professor Curti has held Visiting Professorships at the University of Chicago and the University of California, and was formerly Professor of History at Columbia University. He now holds a professorship of American History at the University of Wisconsin.

The Watumull Foundation, which is sending Professor Curti as a representative to the Universities and culture centers of India has selected the foremost authority in the field of American History, Culture and Civilization. Professor Curti will be Visiting Professor to the University of Calcutta, but will also lecture in the great university centers of India under the auspices of the Inter University Board.

The Watumull Foundation feels that cultural co operation between the United States and India is of great importance in this period of world history.

NIZAMS DONATION TO BENARES UNIVERSITY

H E H the Nizam of Hyderabad has made a donation of Rs 5,00,000 to the Benares Hindu University for the construction of a hostel to be named "The Hyderabad House" mainly to accommodate students of the University from the Hyderabad State.

Sir S Radhakrishnan, Vice Chancellor of the University announcing this to the Associated Press of India conveyed the thanks of the University to the Nizam and officials of the Hyderabad Government for the donation.

Sir Radhakrishnan added that certain aspects of the Ellora and Ajanta styles would be incorporated in the construction of the hostel which will generally conform to the architectural scheme of the Benares Hindu University Buildings.

DR WALI MOHAMED

Dr Wali Mohamed, who has been appointed Vice Chancellor of the Osmania University, assumed charge of his office on October 16. Dr Mohamed was the Head of the Physics Department of the Lucknow University.

PROF FRANCO'S PORTRAIT

Dr Sir A Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Vice Chancellor of the University of Madras, unveiled, on October 16, a portrait of Prof J C Franco, retired Principal of the Teachers' College at the College premises, Saidapet. The students of the college presented a farewell address to Prof Franco.

INDIAN APPEALS TO PRIVY COUNCIL

"The first act of the National Government should be to abolish the hearing of all Indian appeals by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council which costs a mint of money and a length of time which would be saved by utilising the Federal Court which has long been struggling for the accession of this power," says Sir Hari Singh Gour, in the course of a statement to the United Press of India.

Sir Hari Singh Gour adds: "The Central Cabinet consists of many eminent lawyers including Pandit Nehru amongst them. They require no argument to pass an order that all appeals pending in the Privy Council should be heard by the Federal Court in India. The public would congratulate the National Government on this belated step in the administration of justice to the people of India."

CUSTODY OF MINOR SON

At the Madras High Court on September 8, the Officiating Chief Justice and Rajamannar J. disposed of an Original Side appeal, in which the question was raised whether a putative father had the right of guardianship over his illegitimate son.

The appeal arose out of an application on the Original Side by the mother of a minor boy under Section 25 of the Guardians and Wards Act, praying for an order for restoration of the custody of the boy to her from that of the putative father.

On behalf of the appellant it was contended that a putative father was entitled to the guardianship over his illegitimate son, as such a son was liable to

be maintained by him and that in certain circumstances, there was also heritable relationship between them in respect of property,

Their Lordships held that an illegitimate son could not be deemed to be a son for all purposes and that a putative father was not the guardian of his illegitimate son, though the son would have certain rights to his father's property by virtue of the special texts under the Hindu Law. Such a relationship, however, could not warrant the assumption that incident of sonship was available for all purposes. In this view their Lordships dismissed the appeal.

HON MAGISTRATE SYSTEM

A vehement attack on the system of Honorary and Special Magistrates in the United Provinces was made by Mr. Raghunir Sahai (Congress), when he moved a cut motion under General Administration in the U. P. Assembly last month.

The motion was later withdrawn on an assurance by Dr. Katju, Minister for Justice, that Government's ultimate object was to abolish Honorary Magistrates and to replace it by panchayats.

SEPARATION OF THE JUDICIARY

Addressing the members of the Madras Christian College History and Politics Association, Tambaram, Mr. K. Bashyam, Minister for Law, stressed the need for separating the Judiciary from the Executive and making the Judiciary independent. He hoped that the Committee set up to consider the question would evolve a solution satisfactory to all. Mr. C. Devanesan, Professor of History, presided.

Insurance

LIFE INSURANCE PROFITS

Chief Justice Sir Leonard Stone and Mr Justice Chagla of the Bombay High Court disposed off an interesting reference relating to Rule 3 (a) of Section 10 (7) of the Income Tax Act. Under this provision in computing the profits and gains of life insurance business, one half of the amounts paid to or reserved for or expended on behalf of the policyholders should be allowed as a deduction from the actual surplus. In the case before their Lordships, it was claimed on behalf of the New India Insurance Company Limited that one half of the Income tax deducted at source of Rs 33,860 and of the income tax reserve created by the company of Rs 1,00,770 were permissible deductions in terms of Rule 3 (a). This contention was based on the plea that any amount expended out of the life fund was an expenditure on behalf of the policyholders, because they were the virtual owners of the fund. Their Lordships, however, held that the amount of Rs 33,860 was not paid on behalf of the policyholders, who were not liable to pay the tax, but was paid by the company on its own behalf in discharge of its own liability to pay income tax. Similarly, they held that the income-tax reserve of Rs 1,00,770 was a reserve to meet a liability, which was in law the Company's own liability and not that of its policyholders. Therefore, no deductions were allowable under the above heads. But, they accepted the company's another contention that deduction should be allowed to the extent of one half of the amount of Rs 14,142, being the unappropriated carry forward to the subsequent valuation period, as the sum was stated to be ear-marked for only.

MOTOR INSURANCE BILL

An instance of reciprocity between the Indian States and the Government of India has been given in the publication of a Bill to overcome deficiencies in the present legislation covering the insurance of motor vehicles. More than forty States have agreed to enact parallel legislation to the new Bill, which is published in the *Gazette of India*, providing for reciprocity. On the legislation being passed by the Government of India and by the States concerned, a single insurance policy will cover contingencies arising to motor vehicles in variously administered States and in British India. With the new highways scheme to facilitate overland road journeys, and the possibility of an increased number of privately owned and commercial vehicles taking advantage of them, this legislation will be by no means premature.

INSURANCE AGENTS

"Relief is being given to all Government servants, both Provincial and Central. We, the insurance agents form a separate institution by ourselves, and feel that we also deserve some relief during these troublous times" writes a correspondent to the Press. "But Section 40 (2) of the Insurance Act limits the commission. It is therefore requested that the Section may be modified and the commission enhanced. We hope the Insurance Agents all over India and the public will support the cause of this. If the insurance companies are too willing to raise our status, why should not the Government also do it?"

U. N. ECONOMIC COUNCIL

The Government of India, have sent a delegation to attend the meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Economic and Social Council in London. The Committee has to prepare a draft including a convention for consideration by an international trade conference which is expected to meet in the summer of 1947. The following are the members of the delegation:

Mr. R. K. Nehru, I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Commerce Department (leader), Mr. B. N. Adarkar, M. B. E. Deputy Economic Adviser to the Government of India; Mr. H. S. Malik, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S., Prime Minister, Patiala State Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, Editor, *Eastern Economist*, New Delhi; Mr. D. G. Mulherkar, Secretary of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi; Dr. A. I. Queraishi, Economic Adviser to H. E. H. the Nizam's Government, Hyderabad (Deccan); Dr. B. N. Ganguli, Economics Department, Delhi University, and M. M. A. Mulky, Under-Secretary, Commerce Department (Secretary).

INDIA AND MONETARY FUND

Sir Chintaman Deshmukh, the Indian member of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund, meeting at Washington for the annual conference, told the Board that his Government, may soon ask for an inward revision of her subscription quota to the fund.

'Four hundred million dollars were assigned to India originally at the Bretton Woods' Conference in 1944, despite the protest of the Indian delegate, and this was too small. Under the Fund's articles of agreement, the size of the quota determines the extent of aid a country may obtain from the fund in establishing its currency with relation to currencies of other nations.'

Sir Chintaman said: 'If trade and exchange operations start, and we find the quota inadequate for our requirements, we shall be forced to come up with a request for revision. Then we hope India will be treated in the same manner and on the same principles as France.'

GRANTS TO FEDERAL UNITS

Mr. R. K. Nehru, Joint Secretary, and Prof. B. P. Adarkar, Officer on Special Duty, of the Finance Department, have been deputed to study the system by which the Australian Federal Government apportions financial grants to its several federal units.

'The mission is the outcome of a decision taken some time ago. It will be remembered that the last Finance Member, in the course of his budget speech in the Central Assembly, said: "I do not myself regard population as an altogether appropriate basis of distribution and would prefer a scheme more on the lines of the Australian grants system under which grants to the States are made on the recommendation of an independent and impartial body such as the Australian Federal Grants Commission.'

MRS MEHTA'S APPEAL

The hope that 'the National Government of India would lead the rest of the world in implementing the basic principle of equality between man and man and man and woman in the various spheres of human enterprise', was expressed by Mrs Hansa Mehta, President of the All India Women's Conference, addressing the Berar Women's Conference on Oct 7

Mrs Mehta, who represented India on the Women's Commission appointed by the UNO, said the United Nations Charter, signed by 51 nations including India, had already accepted this principle. It was now for these nations to translate it into practice. 'Let us hope that our National Government would be the first to do this', she added

Despite the formation of the Government, the country had many hurdles to cross yet before she attained independence, Mrs Mehta said

Mrs Mehta recalled the orgy of violence recently witnessed at Calcutta, Bombay and other places and said, 'Those who have encouraged by word or gesture this political goondaism must realise that it is not going to pay them in the long run and will not stop the country's march towards freedom'

The path of salvation, Moksha, is like a razor's edge. If India has to suffer this bloodshed and violence before she can reach her Moksha, she will rather pay the price than remain eternally bound to the apron string of Britain'

Discussing the role of Indian women in new India, Mrs Mehta said that they

must 'insist on the foundation of this new India being 'democratic', for, it is only in a democratic order that men and women can enjoy full equality'

The 15 women elected to the Constituent Assembly, she added, would see that the new constitution made no distinction on grounds of sex, caste or creed

The Indian woman, she added, shall have to overcome 'the prevailing notions about women being fit only to produce children, wash and cook. We shall also have to fight against customs like Purdah and Polygamy'

MATERNITY BENEFIT BILL

The Government of Madras have published in the *Port St George Gazette* a bill further to amend the Madras Maternity Benefit Act of 1934 for eliciting public opinion. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill states that the Bill seeks to raise from four weeks to six the maximum period for which a woman worker is entitled to the payment of maternity benefit after her confinement. The proposed change is in response to the recommendations of the Women's Sub Committee of the Post War Reconstruction Committee which is favoured also by the Commissioner of Labour and the Director of Public Health. The latter, it is stated, considered the longer period necessary in the interests of the health and welfare of the newborn child as well as to enable the woman to be in a fit condition to discharge her duties efficiently

SHANKAR AS AN ARTIST

Shankar, is "one of the world's greatest cartoonists", according to Sir Archibald Rowlands, a former Finance Member. He is certainly India's pioneer in this particular line of art, and he is now blossoming forth as the proprietor of a daily newspaper in Delhi. Recently he declared himself the Printer and Publisher of the *News Chronicle*. Shankar's thousands of friends in India and abroad would wish him great success in his undertaking and we can confidently expect his cartoons in the *Chronicle* when it begins to come out. The editorship of the paper is still a little mystery but one suspects whether that brilliant editor *Magnus Chellapathi Rau* would be the man.

INDIAN AND EASTERN NEWSPAPER SOCIETY

The 34th general meeting of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society, was held in Lahore on October 8, 9 and 10 with Mr. W. J. B. Walker of the *Statesman*, President of the Society, in the chair. Twenty-three members attended the session at which besides other items, the present newspaper situation was discussed. It was decided to hold the next annual general meeting of the Society at Calcutta early in 1947.

CALCUTTA PAPERS RESUME PUBLICATION

The 21 Calcutta newspapers which suspended publication on October 1 as a protest against the restrictions imposed by the Bengal Government on the printing of news relating to communal disturbances in the province resumed publication on October 8. This decision was reached unanimously at a meeting of the editors and proprietors of the newspapers concerned held at the city office of the *Amrit Bazar Patrika* on Oct. 6. Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh presided.

SANSKRIT WORKS IN GERMANY

As His Majesty's Government has laid down that scholastic material and works of art now in Germany are not to be used as reparations material, India cannot expect the return under this head, of a large number of Sanskrit books and manuscripts, purchased by Germans from various sources in India.

NEW CONGRESS PRESIDENT

The General Secretaries of the A.I.C.C. have issued the following statement:-

"The A.I.C.C. office received the following two names for the presidentship of the next session of the Congress; Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and Acharya Kripalani.

"Maulana Azad has intimated the A.I.C.C. Office of his decision to withdraw his candidature. Acharya Kripalani, therefore, is hereby declared duly elected President of the Congress."

CENTRAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP

It is learnt that for the forthcoming session of the Central Assembly, Mr. N. M. Joshi, the Labour Leader, is being nominated as member in place of Sir V. T. Krishnamachari who has resigned on his assuming the Dewanship of Jaipur.

It is also that Mr. Sarat Bose, who has resigned his membership of the Interim Government and who earlier also resigned his membership of the Central Assembly, will file his election papers from his Bengal constituency for election to the Central Assembly.

THE LATE SIR MANUBHAI MEHTA

Sir Manubhai Mehta, ex-Dewan of Baroda and Bikaner and Member in charge of the Foreign Department of Gwalior State, expired on Sept. 14 at Bombay.

Sir Manubhai had been ailing for the past three months and had come down to Bombay for medical attention.

Sir Manubhai Mehta attended the Round Table Conference in London in 1930, 1931 and 1932 and was the States' delegate to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Reforms (1933). He also attended the World Hygiene Conference in that year.

INDIAN DELEGATION TO F.A.O.

- Dr. K. N. Katju (Leader), Sir S. V. Ramamurti, Mr. A. D. Gorwalla, G. Parameswaran Pillai and Chowdhury Mukhtiar Singh, members of the Indian Delegation to the Food and Agriculture Organisation Conference at Washington on left Karachi on October 21.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

The abolition of the Civil Branch of the Indian Medical Service and adequate provision for research and the application of the scientific method for the investigation of the indigenous system of medicine formed the subject matter of two resolutions adopted by the Health Ministers' Conference, which concluded its deliberations at Delhi on October 12

The resolution on the abolition of the Civil Branch of the I M S is as follows

' This Conference of Health Ministers is of opinion that there should be no civil branch of the Indian Medical Service and requests that the Central Government may arrange to take back immediately the Indian Medical Service personnel in civil employ in the Provinces and post them on the military side to which they rightly belong "

The Conference resolved that in accordance with the recommendations of the National Planning Committee, adequate provision should be made in the Centre and the Provinces for research in and the application of the scientific method for the investigation of the indigenous systems like Ayurveda and Unani with reference to the maintenance of health and prevention and cure of diseases for starting schools and colleges for training for diploma and degree courses in indigenous systems of medicine, and for post graduate courses in Indian Medicine for graduates in Western medicine "

DRUG CURE FOR RECURRING MALARIA

During the war, U S scientists have been carrying on a vast research scheme for fighting malaria. In their search for an effective drug against this scourge, they developed and tested 14 000 new chemical compounds. Of these vast compounds one Sn 13 276 has proved better than quinine or atabrine, the only effective drugs against malaria

Sn 13,276 not only cures ordinary malaria but also completely cures the more dangerous type of recurring malaria

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

One of the truly breath taking possibilities of world organisation which has been subordinated to more current issues is an international system of medical research laboratories discussed at the International Health Conference, called by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, which met in New York City in July

In opening the first session of the International Health Conference, M. Henri Laugier of France, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations in charge of social affairs, called for speedy establishment of a World Health Organisation. He continued

" For the first time in history, the whole of the human community has set itself the task to unite all its efforts, to co ordinate and multiply them on the level of the whole world, in order to launch the fight against suffering, against illness, against death

" Each of you is passionately interested in certain precise technical problems, be it the fight against cancer, against tuberculosis, against rheumatism, against tropical fevers, or be it cerebral surgery, epidemiology, pharmacology, psychiatry or some other specialised field "

T B SANATORIUM FOR KURNOOL

An assurance that the Madras Government would see to it that the proposal of the District Anti-Tuberculosis Association to construct a tuberculosis sanatorium at Peapalle in Kurnool District became an accomplished fact before long was given by Mrs Rukmini Lakshmiipathi, Minister for Public Health, Madras addressing a public meeting at Peapalle

Mrs Rukmini Lakshmiipathi, in the course of her address, said that there was really a need for a sanatorium in that area and she was glad to hear that an appreciable portion of the estimated cost of the institution would be met from public donations. She promised to see that Government contributed the remaining sum so that the sanatorium might function early

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Dr. Hugh Dalton, at a Press conference promised that all blocked Sterling balances would be dealt with in accordance with the promises Britain had made in signing the Anglo-American financial agreement.

He said: "The biggest single holder of these balances is India, though we have not yet tried to discuss the matter with them, because this is a very historic moment in that country's history. It seemed to us it would be right that we should wait for the establishment of a Government of Indians by Indians before taking up the subject. So far as the British Government are concerned, the sooner we have such a Government the more we shall be pleased. As soon as this is done—but not until then—we shall start on these important negotiations."

SIR C. DESHMUKH

Sir Chintaman Deshmukh, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, has been appointed one of the four Vice Chairmen of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

At the final meeting of the first annual session of the boards held at Washington on October 3 Sir Chintaman was elected to the important procedure committees of both the Bank and the Fund.

DR. DALTON AS CHAIRMAN OF WORLD BANK

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Dr. Hugh Dalton, was unanimously elected chairman of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

He succeeded Mr. John W. Snyder, the United States Secretary of the Treasury.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Italy, Turkey, Syria and the Lebanon were on Oct. 5 granted membership of the International Monetary Fund after spirited opposition by Yugoslavia against the admission of Italy. The other three nations were elected unanimously.

NO VICTIMISATION OF S.I.Ry. STRIKERS

Mr. M. Kalyanasundaram, President, S. I. Railway-Labour Union, who returned recently from Delhi after interviewing Mr. Asaf Ali, Member for Railways and Communications, Government of India, addressed a meeting of the Egmore branch of the Union.

He narrated his talks with the Member on the recent strike, and said the Member had promised not to permit victimisation of the men who went on strike. The cases of the nine men, who had been dismissed, would be reinvestigated and the disciplinary appeal rules, had been so amended as to provide the right of interview for a worker before he was discharged from service, the worker being permitted to present his case.

Mr. C. Parthasarathy presented Mr. Kalyanasundaram with a purse of Rs. 187 to give relief to the families of the workers who lost their lives when the police opened fire, during the disturbance at Golden Rock, Trichinopoly.

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT

According to the Annual Report of the Chief Labour Commissioner for 1944-45, the number of railwaymen entitled to protection under the Hours of Employment Regulations increased from 593,151 in 1943-44 to 650,148. These regulations implement the Washington Hours of Work Convention on the Class I Railways in British India and prescribe a 60-hour week, compensatory rest and over-time allowances to railwaymen classified as "continuous". The number of continuous workers increased by 53,932 in 1944-45 as compared with the previous year.

ELECTRIC FANS FOR THIRD CLASS COACHES

It is understood that the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, have decided not to dispose of thousands of electric fans, purchased during the war and now available for disposal.

It is learnt that the Government are considering how best these fans could be utilised for fitting into third-class railway coaches.

TARA CHAUDHURI

Madras has had a surfeit of dancing and the recent recitals put up by Ram Gopal and Tara Chaudhuri was easily the best show one had witnessed. Tara who is a rising star in the horizon of classical dancing is full of promise and she has won over Madras by her exquisite exposition of the several schools of dancing. She was equally at ease in all the pieces she attempted and her rendering was marked by superb charm and grace exclusively hers. Endowed with chiselled features and a perfect technique she has made her mark and has left an indelible impression in the minds of those who witnessed her show.

The one drawback, however, which everyone felt was that Ram Gopal who is reputed to command a rich repertoire did not give as many pieces to do justice to the expectations of the admiring crowds. But the few pieces he did were beautifully done brilliantly partnered by Tara.

UDAY SHANKAR

Uday Shankar, the well known dancer has declined the invitation of the Education Department of the Government of India to represent India with his troupe at the United Nations educational, scientific and cultural organisations celebrations in Paris as he is at present engaged in the production of a film, says a Bombay message. He has also declined offers from theatrical producers of New York to tour the United States in the coming winter for the same reason.

A P's MUSICAL FAIRY TALE

The most important theatrical event in London recently has been the opening of the musical fairy tale 'Big Ben' by Sir Alan P. Herbert. It takes its name from the famous clock at Westminster and makes gentle fun—in a manner reminiscent of the famous 19th century light operas of Gilbert and Sullivan—on the Mother of Parliaments 'A P', as he is generally known, is a prominent writer, a member of Parliament and a character. The piece bids fair to be a success.

THE MADRAS STADIUM

Madras has at last a Stadium of her own. In selecting the site for the Sports Arena, the choice had to be made between one in a central place in the City and another in the outskirts. It was felt that an Arena situated far away from the centre of the City would not prove as popular as one located in a central place within easy reach of all parts of the City. The advantage of such a central location far outweighed the few disadvantages and it was thought that even the few disadvantages could be mitigated by procuring a fairly large site and by careful planning.

The People's Park which is centrally located and has a large open space to accommodate an Arena with necessary parking ground for cars, was finally fixed for the purpose. The several narrow roads in the Park which are serving no useful purpose will be replaced by a few 50 feet wide roads specially planned to meet the needs of the traffic created by the Arena and to avoid any further congestion on the roads already existing in the adjoining area. The Park itself has been redesigned to fit into this new system of roads.

NAWAB OF PATAUDI'S IMPRESSIONS

In a broadcast from the Delhi Station of All India Radio (in the series, "Meet Our Guest Talker") the Nawab of Pataudi who captained the Indian Cricket Team to the U.K. reviewed the tour. He said—

"There is no doubt the team played better than some people had expected, but I am sure the performances of the team would have been still better if England had anything like a reasonable summer. I remember occasions when we had to plod through water ankle deep to get to the wicket. I also remember the bitterly cold days on which it was literally impossible to bowl or field properly. I am proud to say that not once did I hear a member of my team grouse or grumble. People should realise that practically all the members of my team had learnt and played their cricket on perfect wickets and in ideal weather."

NATIONAL LABORATORIES FOR INDIA

India's scheme to set up four more national laboratories at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 132 lakhs will be launched shortly. The plans for these were approved recently by the Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Minister for Food and Agriculture, will lay the foundation stone of the Fuel Research Institute at Digwadh near Dhanbad on November 17. The capital cost of the institute is estimated at Rs. 14 lakhs.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, Minister for Industries and Supplies, and President, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, will lay the foundation stone of the National Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur on November 19. The initial capital expenditure on this laboratory will be about Rs. 43 lakhs.

The foundation stone of the National Physical Laboratory will be laid by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Vice-President, Interim Government, on January 4, 1947 at Delhi during the Indian Science Congress session. The estimated cost of this laboratory is about Rs. 40 lakhs.

RESEARCH TO BE INTERNATIONAL

The establishment of great international laboratories in which scientists from all countries would join to study the atom, the universe, nutrition and a host of other major problems was urged by Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director of the Harvard University Laboratories, speaking at Princeton University Conference.

He said that some research problems could best be handled on international scale. Among others he specified attack on diseases of man.

Dr. Philip Morrison of Cornell expressed the fear that Government's entry into research would come through the military and would "institutionalise relations between nuclear science and war," making physics an appendage of national defence.

TWENTY YEARS OF TALKIES

The 20th anniversary of the talking motion picture, or "talkie", was celebrated last month, in the United States and throughout the world wherever American motion pictures are shown.

Talking pictures were first presented successfully in 1926, when the late John Barrymore appeared in "Don Juan" at the Warner Theatre in New York City, on August, 6, 1926, the first talking motion picture shown publicly, by Warner Brothers. They were the first—and for a long time the only—motion picture studio to use sound. "Don Juan" was a silent picture with a synchronised and recorded musical score.

There was great excitement in the entertainment and scientific world—seats for the premiere sold for 11 dollars (Rs. 37) each—and the theatrical magazine 'Variety' of the next day said; "History was made last night. . . . Echoes from the thrill will ring around the world."

DICKENS ON THE SCREEN

Two novels by Dickens—"Great Expectations" and "Nicholas Nickleby"—are being filmed in two different British studios.

Both stories are rich in plot and vivid characters. The great problems, therefore, were simplification and selection.

The Scenarist, John Dighton, wrote five treatments of "Nicholas Nickleby" before deciding on a version which has since been approved by the Dickens Fellowship and Dickens' grandsons. The third of the novel is the most exciting, while the last two-thirds are tedious, so it was obvious that the heaviest cut should be in the latter part. Some passages were written by Dickens himself in a filmic way, and several of them have been kept almost intact.

Inconveniently—for the writer, many of the best lines of dialogue occur in discarded passages, and some of these have, therefore, been ingeniously transplanted.

The boldest change was to combine the two villains, the hero's uncle Ralph Nickleby, and Stryde, into one person.

PURCHASE OF NEW CARS

With regard to the question of permits for the purchase of new motor vehicles a Press Note issued by the Madras Government states that the Government understand that certain motor companies are under the impression that from October 1 1946, they can sell motor cars without permit as the control order under the Defence of India Rules ceases to be in force from that date

The Government hereby draw the attention of the public the Note further states to the fact that under Section 9 of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning Act 1946 read with item No 12 of the schedule thereto all control orders regulating sale and price of motor vehicles issued by the Central Government and or by the Provincial Government continue to be in force until modified by action taken under the Act. Permits are therefore still necessary as hitherto for the purchase of new cars or trucks

PRICES OF FORD CAR

The Office of Price Administration New York has announced adjustments in the prices of new passenger cars and an increase in the selling prices of three types of the Ford Car (Ford Mercury and Lincoln). Ford car prices are raised about six per cent

Both the new price formula which is available to all manufacturers of passenger cars who are at present in an overall loss position and the Ford price increases take effect immediately. The latter are to remain in force until March 15 1947 though they are subject to extension or modification

PARACHUTE MOTOR CYCLES FOR SALE

Miniature motor cycles of the type used by British parachute troops during the war (hundreds of which were later sold in American stores) are now being turned out in Britain again. They are an improvement on the old model have a speed of 35 miles per hour and low petrol consumption. They could be sold in Britain for about £40 including purchase tax but meanwhile production is for the overseas markets only

EXPANSION OF AIRCRAFT FLIGHTS

'The public demand for air travel increased at a rate far exceeding expectations a year ago says a survey (by the Civil Aviation Directorate) of internal air transport in India during the half year ended June, 1946, a period in which there was considerable all round development in all spheres of civil aviation. The survey states

During the half year ending June 1946 there was considerable all round development in all spheres of civil aviation. The civil air services were restored to commercial operation on Jan 1 and by July 1 the mileage of air routes had been nearly doubled—from 4 781 to 9 225 miles—while the number of routes in operation had been increased from six to 11

Mileage flown was 1 652 200 miles as compared with 1 417 400 and 1,929 830 miles respectively in the first and second half year periods of 1945. Although the mileage flown was no greater the carrying capacity operated, expressed in ton miles was substantially higher, at 3 007 387 against 1 023 653 and 1 879 145 in the two previous half years

The public demand for air travel increased at a rate far exceeding expectations a year ago. During the first half of 1946 the total number of passengers carried on the air services was 37 633 as compared with 24 090 in the whole of 1945. In 1946 practically all passengers were priority passengers. In 1946 rather less than half travelled on priority. In June this year 236 passengers a day were being carried against 65 in June 1945

AIR TRANSPORT BETWEEN INDIA AND U.S.

An American Mission headed by General George A. Brownell Personal Representative of President Truman has come to India to negotiate with the Government of India a long term bilateral agreement for the operation of air transport services between India and the United States of America, says a Press Note. Formal discussions with General Brownell and party started in New Delhi on October 16

ADVISORY PANELS FOR INDUSTRIES

In order to establish closer contacts with industries and to ensure prompt assistance in their development and day-to-day progress, 36 Committees have recently been set up to advise the Director-General of Industries and Supplies.

The industries for which such Committees have been set up include machines and machine tools, engineering, electrical goods and appliances, metals, paper, newsprint and boards, plastics, glass, ceramics, rayon, far products, fine chemicals, heavy chemicals, surgical instruments, soap, paints and varnishes and enamelware. A Committee for the leather industry is shortly to be established. Some of the Committees may have to be expanded and more Committees may be formed when more industries are taken up for development.

Each Committee consists of about four to six representatives of industrialists selected with due regard to their past performance, potential capacity and regional importance, the appropriate Development Officer in the Directorate-General of Industries and Supplies and where necessary, representatives of Provincial Governments.

INTERIM GOVERNMENTS' POLICY

"The Interim Government will consider the development of national shipping as one of their foremost interests," said Mr. C. H. Bhabha, Commerce Member, Government of India, speaking at a luncheon given in his honour by Mr. Walchand Hirachand at Bombay.

Mr. Bhabha added: "There is no denying the fact that Indian shipping requires protection," and gave an assurance that any handicaps placed in the way of its development should disappear soon.

"I think it was Mr. Gandhi, who said that any talk of free trade between the strong and the weak was a snare and an illusion, and you can rest assured that the Government will always keep themselves alive to the dangers inherent in this system."

ENQUIRY INTO AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

It is proposed to institute an enquiry into the earnings of agricultural labourers, said Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Labour Member, addressing a Conference at Provincial Labour Ministers, at Delhi on October 14. He mentioned that among the suggestions placed before the Conference was one that all major legislation should be Central, and that the Provinces should pay special attention to the organisation of adequate administrative and inspection services to secure proper enforcement of Labour legislation, a sphere of activity which, he said, had not received sufficient attention in the past.

Mr. Jagjivan Ram recommended a five-year programme to secure uniformity in matters relating to Labour laws, administration and standards. He suggested for consideration at the Conference, the institution of a Ministers' Conference which would meet regularly once a year.

RAI BAHADUR KHOSLA

Rai Bahadur A. N. Khosla, Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, has been deputed to take part in the International Commission on High Dams, the Executive Committee of which will meet in Paris. Rai Bahadur Khosla, who is the Chairman of the Central Waterways Irrigation and Navigation Commission and of the Central Irrigation Board, is the first Indian Engineer to be deputed by the Government of India to take part in this Commission. He is an authority on the design of weirs on sandy foundations and is the author of a standard book on the subject.

TUBE-WELLS FOR BENGAL

It is learnt that a total sum of Rs. 35,00,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Chief Engineer, Directorate of Public Health Engineering, Bengal, for expenditure on tube-wells during the current financial year.

LABOUR UNREST IN THE COUNTRY

The prevailing labour unrest in the country was inevitable in view of the existing inflation and high prices of foodstuffs and measures for dealing with this contingency were receiving the careful attention of the Government said Mr Jagjivan Ram Labour Member in the Interim Government who passed through Allahabad on Oct 7 in an interview to the United Press of India

Mr Jagjivan Ram disapproved of the exploitation of labour out of purely political motives Giving details of the scheme which he had promised for providing relief to demobilised workers the Labour Member said that several centres had been opened in the provinces to train workers who could be absorbed in factories Several workers trained during the war period had not been found suitable for industries and hence the necessity of giving them fresh training He said that though arrangements had been made for training nearly one lakh of workers at a time the requisite number was not forthcoming

MAJOR LABOUR LEGISLATION

The two day session of the Labour Ministers' Conference which ended in New Delhi on Oct 16 accepted the principle enunciated by the Labour Member in his presidential address that major legislation on labour should, as far as possible, be initiated by the Centre

SPECIAL LABOUR COURTS

Special labour courts are to be set up for quick disposal of disputes regarding the interpretation and application of standing orders disputes arising out of changes made by the employer references regarding illegal strikes and lock outs and illegal changes Appeals will lie to the Industrial Court regarding these points

Provision is to be made for the appointment of a full time president for the Industrial Court

The period of 15 days at present required for the registration of a dispute after notice is given will be reduced to seven days The time limit for conciliation proceedings which is two months at present will be reduced to one month

INDIAN DELEGATES TO U N ASSEMBLY

The composition of the Indian Delegation to the session of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation is as follows

The delegates are Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit Mr Justice M C Chagla, Sir Maharaj Singh Mr Frank Anthony, and Nawab Ali Yawar Jung, Mr K P S Menon Agent General to the Government of India in China, Mr R V Deshmukh and Mr V K Krishna Menon, President of the India League London, and Mr P N Saprú will be alternate delegates

The A P I adds Advisers to the delegation are Mr R N Banerjee, Secretary of the Commonwealth Relations Department, Mr Gopal Swarup Pathak, Mr Shava A Lal Secretary of the Legislative Department Mr R L Gupta Financial Adviser in the Food Department, Dr Lanka Sundaram Editor of *Commerce and Industry*, New Delhi and Mr C S Jha, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth Relations Department

The Secretaries will be Captain B K Kapoor Deputy Secretary of the External Affairs Department, and Mr Azim Hussein, Deputy Secretary of the Information and Broadcasting Department

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ALL INDIA RADIO

It is understood that Mr Prasulla Chaudhuri ICS, formerly Deputy Controller of Broadcasting, who later on worked in the Commerce Department of the Government of India as Deputy Chief Controller of Imports and who is at present in London in charge of the India Supply Mission's activities there has been appointed Director General All India Radio, in succession to Mr A S Bolhari

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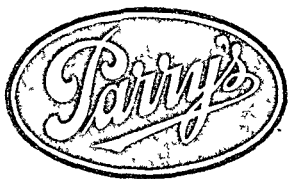
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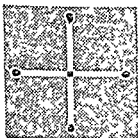
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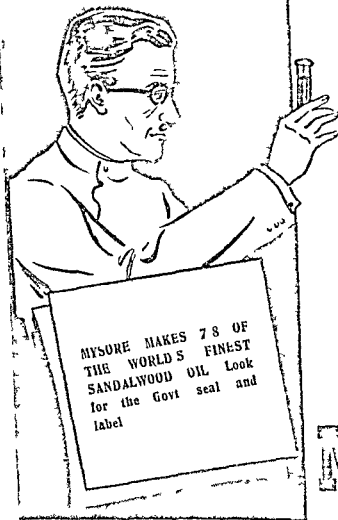
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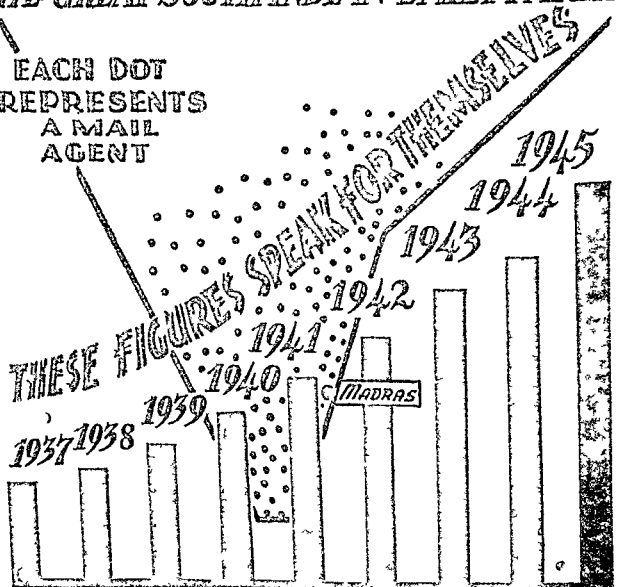
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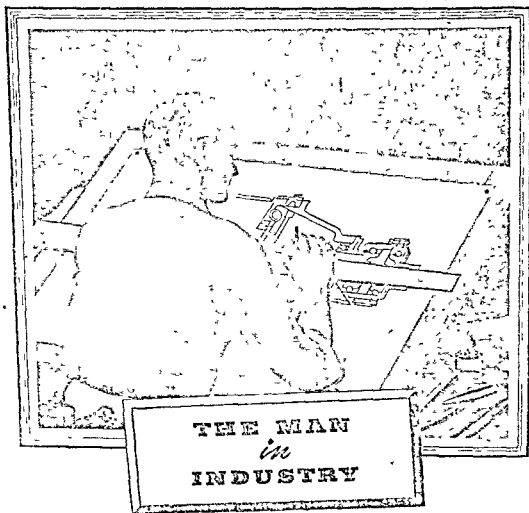
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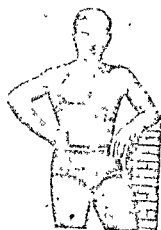
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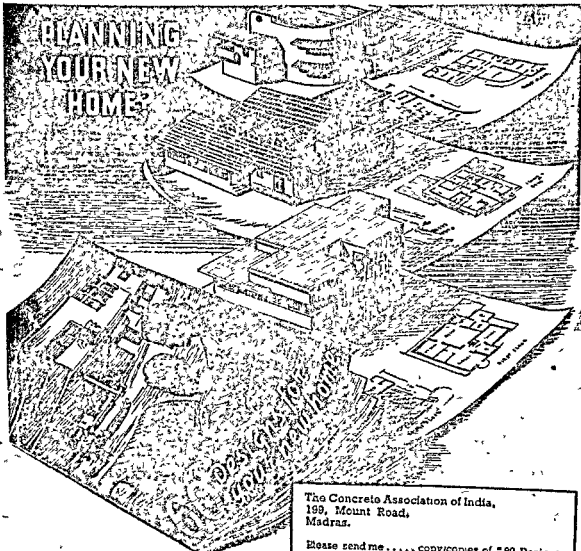
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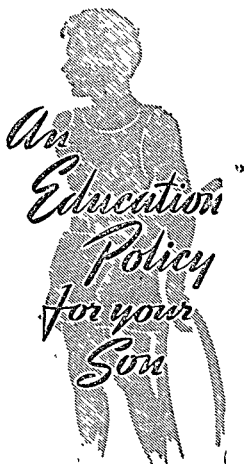
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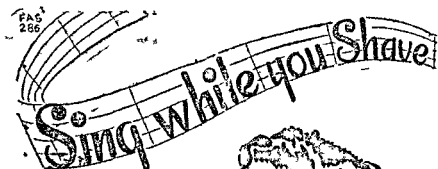
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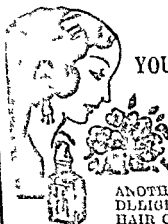
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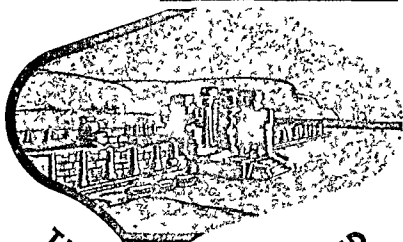
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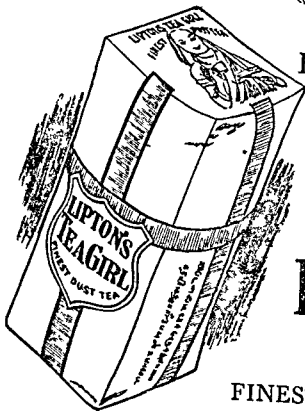
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MORAL EQUIVALENT OF WAR

By DR P BASU M A Ph D LL D

(Principal Maharana Bhupal College Udaipur)

NEVER before in the history of man was his emotion so deeply stirred and on such a wide scale as in the two wars of the present century. The number of men involved the devastating nature of the contests the hideous aftermath in economic ruin and political bitterness have been unparalleled and appalling. Equitable peace is impossible from the very nature of things. Peace treaties must be drawn up as soon as possible after a war. But that is exactly the time when bitterness and hatred and perverted or exaggerated opinions are at their highest. Economically no modern war can be justified even from the victor's point of view. Politically the same is true of peace. It is impossible after a struggle of life and death with the enemy, to draw up a just peace. And if a just peace cannot be drawn up the one that is sows only the seeds of a future war.

After the 1914-18 war and more so after the present war there has been a wave of feeling all over the world which demands a world organisation to supersede the existing machinery or lack of it to settle international relations. Not that the idea of banishing war is a new invention of the

moderns. Ancient Babylonia, Egypt and Greece had the idea and in their own way also tried to implement it. In modern Europe Henry of Navarre strongly advocated the idea early in the seventeenth century. It animated the Holy Alliance after the Napoleonic wars but degenerated into an unholy pact. It was mooted in 1878 at the drawing up of the Treaty of Berlin but such fanciful ideas did not appeal to Bismarck, the tyrant of that show.

It may not be taking a too pessimistic view of things if one predicts now that there is little hope of such a world organisation coming into existence as a result of the general public feeling which is undoubtedly widespread in almost all the countries of the world. The only conclusion to be drawn from the patent facts is that to achieve any great object mere good-intentions however well supported by noble sentiments are not sufficient. Man has not developed the machinery even to create a compelling atmosphere in that direction, and the obvious practical difficulty is the existence of strong and self-conscious national governments. The sense of national separatism is fostered during war and not
to assuaged after it is over

In the past both philosophers and statesmen have speculated about the deeper causes for the existence and even love of war. In recent years the field of speculation has extended to include sociologists and biologists. There are sociologists who think that war is a cultural and moral necessity for human development as also for the maintenance and cultivation of certain moral qualities in man. These grow only under great stress in critical periods of his life. With the growth of civilised and peaceful life the scope for this development is greatly circumscribed because of political safety and economic security. Big adjustments of individual to society, of institutions to social environments are not possible in a peaceful society. Not even social solidarity is possible unless there is strife with an enemy that necessitates unity at home. Contest, competition, rivalry are constantly needed to act as stimulus to grow and to readjust. And war offers the biggest and the most strenuous contest or competition or rivalry. Sociologists do not use this line of argument to justify war. Their function is not to justify anything but to explain why and how things happen. Except in the imagination of theorists man has so far not existed in any part of the world at any time either without war or without moral and cultural stagnation. And that surely requires a lot to explain. The cultural evolution of man has always been by conflict. In fact, many flowering periods of human culture can be directly traced to war and incidental conflicts. Examples of such events can be found along man's history in the days of Babylonia, Egypt, Crete, Greece, and

Rome. Shakespeare's age just followed the long period of contest with Spain ending in the destruction of the Armada. The romantic period of English poets was ushered in along with and after the Napoleonic wars.

There have been biologists who also think that war leads to the survival and maintenance of qualities which fit man better for life. Arthur Keith in his *Essays on Human Evolution* advocates this view. This of course is a biological view of things for the biologist cannot have got the experimental result of such survival qualities through wars. Man has not lived in this world long enough nor has he been left with scientific results sufficient to warrant an experimental conclusion. But aggressiveness is a well established fact. In human civilisation this aggressiveness or pugnacity has worked by considering one's own community or society as friendly and by looking upon strangers as enemies. Again it has been suggested that a community preserves its genetic character by being isolated and by being in conflict with but not overwhelmed by some external forces. Even when there has been conquest of one tribe by another the intermixture leads to the survival of only those who develop biological characteristics involved in pugnacity.

Are biologists and sociologists right in estimating—or even guesstimating, if you please—the survival value of a race brought up on war and similar contests? In other words, are there any evolutionary signs, either biological or cultural and moral, which explain wars waged by man

from the dawn of his life? Can feelings of common interest or even common loyalty be generated without group isolation and frequent or occasional conflicts in war? I doubt whether these questions can be adequately answered with our present knowledge of sociology and biology. But mere sentiment against war on the part of the modern war weary man is not sufficient to dismiss them as irrelevant. Whether a world State will ever come into being or whether after a few more

years, man will again have to start from the cave from which he started aeons ago is a question which the future alone can answer. But if war has become too devastating and if war develops moral qualities which have cultural and evolutionary values, the future world State, if it ever comes into existence, must not only organise the whole of humanity into one effective fold but must also forge institutions which will supply the moral equivalent of war.

Indian States and the Constituent Assembly

BY RAO BAHADUR SARDAR M V KIBE, MA, MRAS

THE Constituent Assembly suffers from the handicaps of a still born child. It possesses the attributes of sovereignty within specified limits. It has to pass hurdles to become a full sovereign. Divided Sovereignty is not unknown to International Law, certainly it is not an unknown factor in India. The Indian States are examples of divided sovereignty.

The Constituent Assembly possesses unrestricted sovereign powers to frame a Constitution for an independent India, consisting of a centre and regional federations in three tiers or patterns. All this refers to what is now British India. The questions relating to Greater India have to await the formation of the constitution for the territories comprising the former country, or administration.

The two major parties between whose representation among the members of the Constituent Assembly there is overwhelming disparity if united can however remedy the disparity in function in the centre and

in regional federations whether consisting of grouped provinces or single ones. But for doing this, the major parties have equal rights, since the majority of each of them must agree to have a state with greater power than the centre, which embraces these subjects of administration only, as laid down at its birth by the British Delegation.

The Indian States can now join such a state above, if it is to discharge the three functions only. But if the two major parties agree to give increased powers to the centre do they opt out. Similarly the question of the form of the centre—that is to say, whether it is to be a republic, with an elected President, or to have some other sort of administration or government, and the character of the Head of the State, is within its sovereign powers, with which it is now endowed, to be decided by the majority of the members of the Constituent Assembly. Presumably these questions with regard to regional Federations or Provinces is to be decided by the sub Committee

formed out of the members of the Constituent Assembly. The latter may be Parliamentary Party System as their governments, dictatorships, oligarchies or elected monarchies or even hereditary monarchies according to the wishes of the enfranchised inhabitants of these areas.

Evidently the two parties which have the sole voice in framing the constitution would not like the 93 representatives of the Indian States to have any voice in these deliberations. The European Members of the Legislatures in British India, with the exception of one Legislative Body, refrained, though they had a right to be represented, but the 93 representatives will be forcibly debarred from having any hand in that making of the constitution, which is the primary function of the constituent Assembly. This should not however, debar them from joining in the deliberations so long as they are confined to the limits laid down by the British power.

If this happens to be the case then one unfortunate result of it would be that among these 93 representatives there are many, who by reason of their experience, study and other mental equipment will be, although equal in all respects with the representatives of British India prevented from lending their helping hand in the framing of the constitution which will be the predominant Government in and presumably, indeed desirably, of India. Moreover the voice of the 93 representatives should be heard, and some of them should be effectively heard as they will represent the people like those in British India. The Constituent Assembly will be the poorer without them, but the constitutional hurdle, that in the matter of the making of constitutions those who are not affected by it should have no voice, has to be evercome. Presumably this is one of the questions, which has remained outside the purview of the British Delegation.

THE CHANGING AMERICAN SCENE*

By PROF M VENKATARANGAYYA, M A

It has now become more or less a commonplace to say that there are only two great powers in the world—the United States of America and the U S S R. It is these two that are influencing the course of events in every part of the globe partly by their material strength and partly by their ideology. And it is upon their mutual relations that the fortunes of the world are going to depend in the next decade or two. If they are friendly the

world will prosper as it has not prospered for centuries, but if unfortunately they develop mutual hostility—as they seem to do if one is to be guided by the recent trend of events—a third world war will become inevitable and it will be a war which as many predict will result in the destruction of what is called civilisation. It may even mean the destruction of humanity itself and the coming perhaps into existence of a new and different type of living beings.

This coming of the United States to the forefront is in the main the result of the

* Americans: A Book of Lives By Hermann Stern. Published by the John Day Company, New York, 1946.

developments through which she passed in the course of the last half a century. The record of this development is wonderful and it is sketched with a great deal of force, clearness and wisdom by Mr Hermann Hagedorn in his book 'Americans A Book of Lives'. It is round the personalities of some of the most outstanding and famous men and women of the United States that he has gathered all the important movements in the history of his country. From his narrative it will be found that the commanding position which the United States occupies to-day is the result of the work not merely of her statesmen like the two Roosevelts, Woodrow Wilson, Herbert Hoover and others but also of her inventors like Edison, her industrial magnates like Henry Ford, of judges like Holmes and Brandeis and of Social reformers like Booker T. Washington and Jane Adams and educationists like John Dewey. A balanced view of the contribution made by these and other well known Americans is given by the author in his book.

Originally when as a result of the War of Independence the Modern United States came into existence the frontiers of the country were limited by the Atlantic in the East and the Mississippi in the West. The rest of the country was more or less vacant except for a few Red Indians to be found here and there. In course of time the frontier was extended through that spirit of adventure and enterprise which has become a characteristic of the American people and which is responsible for the great and noble ideals of individual liberty and equality which still dominate their lives. Of course it was not all through peaceful

colonisation that all this territory was acquired. There was the purchase of Louisiana from Napoleon. There was the conquest of Texas, Nevada etc in a war with Mexico. There was the acquisition of Oregon through a treaty with Britain. But whatever the process the frontier was extended to the Pacific by 1890 and all the rich and varied natural resources of this extensive area were at the disposal of the American nation. This is the foundation of the greatness of the United States.

But there came a time when all this extensive area would not satisfy the jingoists of the country and jingoism is a feature of most countries in the world. They became influential in American politics in the last decade of the nineteenth century. This led to the acquisition of the Hawaiian islands and some islands in the Samoa group. Then came the war with Spain in 1898 as a consequence of which Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippines and Guam came under the control of the United States. She became an imperial power. Theodore Roosevelt who was President from 1901 to 1909 was an embodiment of an imperialistic policy. His motto was 'Speak softly, but carry a big stick'. It was by carrying the big stick that he acquired the Panama canal zone. He added considerably to the prestige of the United States by supporting the successive Hague conferences and he also prevented a World War by persuading France not to play into Germany's hands by taking the side of Russia in the Russo Japanese conflict.

There have always been two Schools of thought in the United States in matters of foreign policy—the school of isolationists and that of interventionists. But the growing

independence of the world made a strict adherence to isolationism an impossibility for a country like the United States with its intense industrialisation and worldwide commerce. It was this that drove Woodrow Wilson to take part in the first World War though at a late stage. His idealism and his faith in the principles of national self-determination and democracy made him the strongest advocate of the League of Nations. It is well known that in this he was not able to carry his nation along with him and this failure on the part of the United States to become a member of the League was one of the important causes for its ineffectiveness. But the policy of isolationism was dying though slowly. Indirectly the country was compelled to take an active part in all international conferences. And it received its final death blow when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt intervened in the Second World War. Addressing the Democratic National Convention which nominated him for a third term he said in justification of his policy. "We face one of the great choices of history. It is not alone a choice of government by the people *versus* dictatorship of freedom *versus* slavery... a choice between moving forward or falling back. It is all of these rolled into one... the continuance of civilization as we know it *versus* the ultimate destruction of all that we have held dear." It was given to Mr. Wendell L. Willkie who was the opponent of Roosevelt to tour round the world while the war was going on and to expound the thesis of 'One World', thus saying that both the Democrats and the Americans realise the impossibility of the United States keeping aloof from world

events. The inclusion of the lives of Woodrow Wilson, C. D. Roosevelt, and Wendell Willkie in the book is of significance from this point of view.

Next only in importance to the growing territorial extent of the United States is the large increase in her population during these years and the racial, religious and cultural diversity that characterises it. The United States is the world in miniature if one looks at her from the point of view of the nature of her population. This has not however created any of those conflicts which are a characteristic feature of Europe or of some other countries. Within a generation or two after migrating into the country all foreigners become completely Americanised and this is to a great extent brought about by the educational agencies of the country. In no other part of the world is so much importance attached to popular education as in the United States. It is this more than anything else that has belied the Nazi prophets who were under the impression that the American people were "an ill assorted, inharmonious and undisciplined aggregation of self-willed individualists, so devoted to comfort and the pursuit of the dollar - that no cause could ever unite them." Among the greatest of modern Americans is the great educationist John Dewey who has done so much to reorientate the whole outlook on education needed in a democratic society.

The only race however which could not as yet be completely assimilated by the United States is the Negro. But this is due not so much to Negroes being less Americanised than the other immigrants as to the colour of their skin which has

created a deeprooted prejudice against them among the whites. The prejudice continues inspite of the Negro race having produced exceptionally brilliant leaders like Booker T. Washington to whose work Mr Hagedorn pays a well merited tribute.

'America is the land of modern scientific invention especially in its application to agriculture, industry and transport. Among her great men are persons like Edison, Burbank, Carver and several others who by their inventions and discoveries revolutionised the whole economic system. This has resulted in the phenomena of mass production and standardisation of almost everything that man makes use of in providing him with material comfort. Henry Ford the 'Motor car king' is the type of industrial magnate who carried to its zenith this art of mass production.

But this growth of technology and the feverish haste with which it was utilised by captains of industry to accumulate unheard of riches created serious problems of their own. Corporations and Trusts came into existence. A sort of industrial feudalism with millionaires controlling the lives not merely of the large army of labourers working under them but also of the consumers in general became the order of the day. These plutocrats were undermining the equalitarian basis of American Society. They began to introduce corruption into politics. They were dealing a blow to the spirit of freedom and enterprise through the monopolistic control which they were establishing over almost every sphere of industrial life. It therefore became necessary to put down this new feudalism, and this needed a revolution in the ideas

regarding the sphere of the state and its right to control the economic activities of the citizens.

Theodore Roosevelt was the first great statesman who realised that the old doctrine of *Laissez Faire* would no longer work. He took the first important steps in the direction of abandoning it and persuading the Congress to pass a number of legislative measures for regulating the activities of the powerful monopolistic concerns. This process was continued by his successors but it was in the days of F. D. Roosevelt that the *Laissez Faire* policy was completely given up. The economic depression, the serious unemployment, the collapse of the banking system and the ruin with which the farmers were threatened led Roosevelt to take to his policy of the 'New Deal'. And to-day the United States is no longer the land of complete individualism or of unregulated rights of private property. It is true that capitalism flourishes there to a far greater extent than in any other country in the world and it is also true that the chance of the country becoming fully socialistic or collectivistic is rather remote. But all the same the New Deal policy of President Roosevelt and the economic controls necessitated by the Second World War have clearly revealed that the days of *Laissez Faire* have no prospect of returning.

This fight, however, against *Laissez Faire* was not a smooth or an easy one. It had to be carried on under a political system based upon a rigid constitution framed in the eighteenth century when life was simple and when the highest importance was attached to a system of fundamental rights to be

guaranteed by the constitution itself. In the United States the Courts are the interpreters of this constitution and they have the power to declare any law invalid if it comes into conflict with any of the provisions in the constitution. They have therefore the final word in the matter of declaring what is law and what is not law. Unlike the British Parliament the Congress of the United States is not a Sovereign legislature. It may represent the public opinion of the day and the laws which it enacts may reflect this opinion. But if the courts think that these laws are contrary to the constitution the public opinion becomes helpless. In this situation the co-operation of the courts becomes necessary if any liberal and progressive legislation is to be put into effect.

It is this that has made Mr Hagedorn include in his book the lives of two of the greatest judges of the Supreme Court of the United States who have contributed to what may be called the liberal interpretation of the Constitution. They are Oliver Wendell Holmes and Louis D Brandeis. What Holmes achieved is expressed in the following words by Hagedorn. 'It was not that Holmes sought merely to interpret the law in terms of contemporary reality, but that, through the iron bars of legal phrasing and transmitted precedent, he saw life as a prisoner of law and did what he could to set it free. It was not enough that free men should elect the delegates who were to make their laws and govern them. The laws they made, the laws of a free people, must be free of the paralyzing clutch of the dead or the no less numbing touch of a paternalistic minority, steeped in economic theory as

dead as Adam Smith himself." It was a similar liberalism that characterised the judgments of Brandeis.

It is in this way that the American scene has been undergoing a change all these fifty years of the twentieth century. It is the one country where one can see all the good and all the evil also of the machine age. There is the development of science on one side but there is also on the other side the continuance of old time superstitions based upon a liberal interpretation of the Bible. There is the great belief in the doctrine of human liberty and equality but there is also the continuing persecution and lynching of the Negro. There is the Rule of Law but there is also the existence of an extraordinary amount of crime and defiance of all law thus creating the need for practical reformers of the type of Jane Adams. But what has happened during the last fifty years indicates in a general way the new directions in which the United States is likely to move in the years to come and they are directions which will shape the destinies of the world as a whole.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr C. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

SOME INDIAN LANGUAGES

BY DIWAN BAHADUR KRISHNALAL M, JHAVERI, M.A., LL.B., J.P.

LIVING languages of India are described by the Bombay University as Modern Indian Languages as opposed to the Classical Languages like Sanskrit, Prakrit Ardha Magadhi, which are dead, *१८*, not living and therefore not capable of development. Modern Indian languages, however, are living and are being used, both for writing and speaking. They are capable of expansion and can develop and in fact, that is what has taken and is taking place. Take for instance, Gujarati. It has undergone various changes, which are characterised as old Mediaeval, and Modern. Being derived from Sanskrit, and fortified by Prakrit it began to be affected by political changes. Under Mahomedan rule in Gujarat it had to absorb many Persian words, specially those relating to military and revenue matters. Then came the rule of the British, and it also resulted in adding many words to the spoken and written language, Ticket, slate, Pen railway station bus, tram, & etc and the expansion still goes on. Bombs and aeroplanes have now found a permanent place in the languages, just as plague and typhoid have done. This is the case with other Indian Languages too. Marathi, Hindi, Bengali, Urdu etc the reason being a common source. These other languages too had their old and Mediaeval periods, and have, of course, now, come in line with Gujarati. For the same reason *१९*, that of the source being common. In the modern period, there was a time, when cultured Gujarati writers, shunned all alien words, and used only find suitable Sanskrit synonyms would coin them. *Mej* and *kalam* and *kusti* are acclimatised words of Persian origin in

Gujarati, meaning, a table, 'a pen and a chair,' They would eschew the use of those words, and would call a table, a place where the pen works, and a chair, a sitting place with a back. They however call a pen, a *kalam*, but would insist on using the Sanskrit equivalent, *Lekhim*. That phase of laboured style in writing has passed. It alienated the sympathies of non Hindu Gujarati speaking communities, like the Parsis and the Muslims. Simplicity of language has taken its place, and led by Mahatma Gandhi, a simple style is being evolved, where only words understood by the masses are being used. The Hindi class he has set, is, the use of acclimatised words *२०*, words which have already found a permanent place in the language. This includes Persian and Urdu words too, provided they are noted in the language. Any attempt to introduce an unfamiliar word is discouraged. That of course, does not mean that you can't at all use an unfamiliar word. Use it, but let its use be so frequent, and constant, that it becomes automatically absorbed in the language. In certain quarters attempts are being made to load the language with unfamiliar Urdu and Persian words, under the belief that Pakistan is found to lead to such loading, and the sooner the load is put the better. In other words, it is enough to Persianise the language, just as the Sanskrit knowing Pundits wanted to Sanskritise it. But this is defying all rules of the development of a language, which should not be onesided or lop headed. Even when the *Rashtra Bhasha* becomes an accomplished fact, and a common National Language for India is a desideratum—if she is to progress politically, and culturally, and the sooner it comes the better—this problem would remain unaffected, and the development of the Provincial Languages would proceed in the natural course because that is the law of Nature.

INDIA'S FIRST PEACE BUDGET

BY PROF V G RAMAKRISHNAN, M A

NOW that the war is over, every country is preoccupied with the problems of transition from war to peace. The Indian Budget for 1946-47 should be viewed largely in the context of this change over from a war to a peace economy. The Finance Member's main objective was to readjust the budgetary technique from a war time basis to difficult period of transition which he graphically described as tantamount to avoiding the Scylla of increasing inflation and the Charybdis of too precipitate a deflation. The budget may therefore be regarded as the first tentative step towards postwar rehabilitation. In introducing the Budget the Finance Member stated that his objective was to help his successor whoever he may be to lead India along the road to prosperity, happiness and greatness. How far this ideal is likely to be achieved may be seen from a review of the financial proposal of the budget. It is gratifying to note that an Indian Member has now taken the portfolio of Finance as a successor to a long line of distinguished Finance Members of India who have carried on the tradition of Orthodox British financial system.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The financial position as revealed by revised Estimates for the current year and budget estimates for 1946-47 may be reviewed

	(In crores of Rupees)		
	1945-46 (Budget)	1945-46 (Revised)	1946-47 (Budget)
Total Revenue	362.33	360.66	367.00
Expenditure	617.63	600.01	353.41
Revenue deficit	255.30	239.35	-86.41

The total revenue receipts for 1945-46 are expected to reach 360.66 crores, a

fall of 1.68 crores on the estimates, Central Excises and Income-tax being responsible for the deficiencies. On the Expenditure side, defence expenditure for 1945-46 was estimated at 394.23 crores and revised estimates at 376.42 crores. Civil expenditure for 1945-46 is expected to total 129.19 crores, an increase of 53¼ crores over the Budget. The total revenue receipts for 1946-47 have been put at 307 crores, a figure which is 53.66 crores below the revised figures for the year 1945-46 but at the same time high enough in keeping with the Finance Member's avowed aim to keep revenue at the level necessary to sustain and advance India's economy. The financial position for 1946-47 may be summarised thus:

	In Crores of Rupees
Civil Estimates	111.94
Defence Services	243.77
Total Revenue Expenditure	355.71
Total Revenue at existing level of taxation	307.00
Prospective Revenue Deficit	48.71

The expenditure for 1946-47 is estimated at Rs 355.71 crores, while the total expenditure (both defence and civil) is to be Rs 555.61 crores or as much as 149.90 crores below the revised estimates for 1945-46. The drop in Defence Expenditure on account of His Majesty's Government and the Government of India in 1946-47 is estimated to be about Rs 600 crores which must have a deflationary effect on the finances of the country and the deflationary implications must be regarded as the chief feature of the first post-war peace budget of 1946-47 and the covering of this deflationary gap

is the real problem of India's immediate postwar budgets

TAXATION

In introducing the taxation proposals in the Budget for 1946-47, the Finance Member has enunciated the canon of public finance that fiscal policy is not an end in itself and that it should subserve the end of national policy and this means that it is 'not merely to raise a given revenue, but to raise it in such a way as to obtain maximum, social and economic advantage and distribute the burden as justly and fairly as possible between the various classes of taxpayers', and the whole pattern of the taxation proposals of the first post war budget must be viewed against the background of this financial dictum. That every endeavour has been made to please all sections of the people be admitted especially the industrial interests, although more might have been done for the poor.

In regard to industry the problem is how to get as much as possible and at the same time to encourage it to expand free from the war time restrictions. The idea is that private industrial enterprise must be stimulated as a supplement to Government expenditure, especially to counter deflationary tendencies. The abolition of the Excess Profits Tax is a move in the right direction. The reduction of the present rates of incometax and supertax on companies from $7\frac{3}{4}$ annas to 6 annas is qualified by a provision that dividends in excess of 5 per cent on the capital of a Company including reserves are henceforth to be discouraged by liability to additional supertax at steepening rates. Refund of Excess Profits Tax Deposits and special

initial depreciation allowances on new buildings, plant and machinery and the widening of obsolescence allowances are a good and realistic gesture to Indian Industrial rehabilitation. Only one industry is singled out for special consideration, i.e. the building industry. How far the Indian industrialists will plough back into business instead of dissipating dividends or invest in Government loans and thereby help to maintain the price structure remains to be seen. In the words of the Finance Member, the Indian Industrialists will do well "not too much to make millions by themselves as to raise the standard of life of India's toiling and poverty stricken millions."

In the case of incometax, reduction of tax in the lower ranges and increase in the allowance for earned incomes is a good gesture. Earned incomes up to Rs $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs per annum benefit in varying degrees under the 1946-47 rates of tax and differentiation of treatment between earned and unearned incomes at a more gradual steepening of the rates is carried in the supertax range which operates more severely on the highest incomes. The Indian incometax can no longer be said to be light in its incidence. Such are the chief changes in the sphere of direct taxation.

In the sphere of indirect taxation, the lowering of the duty on kerosene and the restoration of the half anna post card are the only direct benefit for the poor man. Other items of indirect taxation include the continuance of the special surcharge for one more year, the raising from one fifth to one half of the surcharge on wines, the conversion of an *ad valorem* levy on films into a specific duty, a substantial increase

in the duty on imported betel nut, a reduction of duty on motor spirit and an impost in respect of bullion

OTHER FEATURES OF THE BUDGET

Other features of the budget, each important in itself may be simply referred to Bombay as a part of Government's economic and financial policy, measures to finance Government's (both Centre and (Provinces) postwar plans establishment of an Industrial Finance Corporation to provide medium and long term credit to industrial enterprises in particular, and of investment planning the presentation of the Central budget in 2 parts revenue and capital in accordance with the latest practice in other countries and the proposal to set up a Taxation Enquiry Committee to ascertain the adjustments needed in the present tax system the disposal of sterling balances and the dissolution of the Empire Dollar Pool

BUDGET AND THE MARKET

The removal of the Excess Profit Tax and reduction in the Corporation tax are sufficient incentives to industry at least to justify stabilisation of share prices at present levels. The control of dividends is thought as not likely to dissuade the investor. The cheap money policy and gradual deflation will not react unfavourably on market conditions. The full effects of the import duty on gold are not clear for the reason that it is difficult to say how much gold will be available for import into this country. But gradually the price of gold will be brought into parity with gold prices.

BUDGET AND POST WAR PLANNING

As regards the progress of the Central and the Provincial planning the Provincial five

Year plans would be finalised in the course of the next few months involving an expenditure of Rs 900 crores. In addition to these Central plans in respect of Railways, Roads etc. would be a considerable figure. To expedite planning the Central Government have undertaken to provide Provincial Governments with all the funds that they may require for approved schemes which provide a high proportion of employment relative to their cost. In the case of self-financing schemes, this assistance will take the form of loans, while for others advance grants will be made to cover the full cost which will not be recoverable but will be adjusted against whatever scheme of Central grants finally decided upon. A lump sum provision of Rs 35 crores has been made in the Budget for 1946-47 for such advance payments and Rs 15 crores for loans to Provinces for productive development works. For Central development schemes excluding Railways a total provision of 27 crores has been made in the Budget. Expenditure on Railway items will amount to about Rs 22 crores.

The Labour Department has its own subsidised housing scheme to benefit not only employees of Government and local authorities but also industrial workers and provides for a subsidy up to 12½% by the Centre to the local bodies and industrial employers provided the Provincial Government concerned is also prepared to make an equivalent grant to enable suitable houses to be built for the poorer classes of workers who are not in a position to pay a full economic rent. The scheme relates mainly to urban houses, but the

importance of rural housing has also been recognised

It is likely that Provincial Governments between them will have by the end of the current year balances of the order of Rs 70 crores and will acquire during the next 6 years surpluses totalling some Rs 100 crores. They have based their plans on the broad assumption that apart from borrowing either from the Centre or the market, they will receive central grants during the first five year period amounting to about Rs 250 crores. In the distribution of this grant, the Finance Member preferred the Australian methods of distributing federal grants to study which a senior officer will shortly proceed to Australia.

In the case of Industrial Finance, a Corporation is to be established to provide for medium and long term credits to industrial enterprises in India where the normal methods of industrial finance are inadequate. With a view to secure fullest and most advantageous utilisation of the economic resources of the country in the interests of planned capital development, we have to investigate whether a National Investment Board should be set up and if so how it is to be constituted and on what basis it should work. The Budget for 1946-47 contains a capital budget in addition to the usual revenue budget.

The proposed expenditure on the Five Year Development plan of the Centre and the Provinces is in the neighbourhood of Rs 1,400 crores as follows: Agriculture, Rs 105 crores, Industries Rs 23 crores, Public Works, Rs 470 crores, Medical and Public Health, Rs. 109 crores,

Education, Rs 125 crores, Broadcasting, Rs 17 crores, Information Films, Rs 3 crores, Social Security schemes, Rs. 18 crores, Vocational training, Rs 30 crores, Scientific and Industrial Research, Rs 4 crores, Posts and Tele Communications development, Rs 36 crores, Civil Aviation, Rs 30 crores, Metallurgy Rs 1 crore, Resettlement on Land, Rs 2 crores, National Highways, Rs 20 crores, Railways, Rs 250 crores and Rs 10 crores for centrally administered areas.

The total expenditure of all Provinces on major heads up to March 1952 amounts to Rs 924 crores. If this is put province-wise, Madras, Rs 136 crores, Bombay, 60 crores, Bengal, Rs 169 crores, U P Rs 114 crores, Punjab, Rs 116 crores, Bihar Rs 120 crores, C P and Berar, Rs 30 crores, Assam, Rs. 32 crores, N W F Province, Rs 18 crores, Orissa, Rs 33 crores, and Sindh, Rs 46 crores.

An important question that emerges in connection with post war planning in India is the respective functions of the Centre and the Provinces. As regards policy and the means of carrying out such policy, there should be sufficient co-operation between the Government of India and the Provinces. The various parts of India by geographical position and administrative development are interdependent in economic matters though there are regional differences for which provision should be made in any scheme of planned development. The problem is 'essentially one of devising the best means of fitting regional disparities into a centrally co-ordinated whole'.

In the matter of policy, it is obviously the business of the Central Government to

lay down the lines along which long range planning should be pursued. Thus long term priorities and the targets for the periods should be the concern of the Central Government. In the actual implementation of such a policy, the Central Government is to help the Provinces with finance, technical advice and assistance and co-ordination of the activities of the provinces, and organisation of a machinery for inter provincial co-operation in matters affecting more than one province. In all other respects, it is for the Province to work out the details. It is for the Provinces, for instance, to determine the stages by which a long term plan is to be worked from time to time, to fix the targets as well as the priorities suited to local conditions, to raise the financial resources available for local development and to provide administrative and technical personnel and machinery for

executing the plan at the highest level of efficiency.

In fact the machinery for planning should be such as to provide for decentralisation as well as co-ordination. It might take the form of a permanent all-India Council with representatives of Provinces whose duty is to formulate a national plan and see to its implementation. At the same time each province would have its own developmental agency which would provide material required for drawing up a national plan and fill in the details and work out the plan within the general framework laid down by the Central body. An administrative organisation along these lines is no longer an academic issue but a question of great practical importance in view of the large sums of money now allocated for post war planning and the paramount need for efficient and smooth working of a planned economy.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF DEMOCRACY

By PROF T K VENKATARAMAN, MA, L.T.,

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THE growth of Parliamentary liberty in England was gradual. It is said that Henry VIII, angry at the delay in passing the bill for the dissolution of the monasteries, sent word to the House, "I must have the bill today or your heads". The bill was at once passed. Queen Elizabeth once asked the Speaker 'What has passed in the House?' The Speaker replied 'If it please your Majesty, seven weeks'. But, things changed in the Stuart Period. King James I, shrewd and quick-witted, realised the change. He saw

a Parliamentary deputation coming and cried "Chairs, here be twelve kings coming".

The reign of Charles I of England forms the climax of the desperate struggle between Parliament and the King for power. The temper of Parliament is seen in an anecdote given in Lord North's 'Narrative'. An unsatisfactory message was received from Charles I. One member said "He who sent this message is not fit to be the King of England". When interrupted, Pym explained on his behalf!

'He who sent it is not fit to be the King Charles I is worthy to be the King So, Charles I did not send the message" Readers know very well that the unfortunate King, worsted in the Civil War he waged with Parliament, was ultimately executed

We can compare the violence and extremism exhibited by Parliament now with the violence of the leaders of the French Revolution This violence reached its height under Robespierre Robespierre, who had resigned in his early career a judgeship rather than sentence a man to death, lost all such compunctions now The Revolutionary Tribunal was spurred on to greater activity The judge would ask only a single question "Were you not a noble?" "Yes" The judge would say at once "Enough! To the guillotine! Another" Hebart, who dominated the Commune of Paris, declared "To be safe, you must kill everybody". With the fall of Robespierre, this phase of violence ended Meanwhile, it had created a violent revulsion of feeling in countries like England which had at first sympathised with the French Revolution. Anti French mobs in England were demonstrating their disbelief in mob violence by their own mob violence

Though the violence of the French Revolution naturally led to the Napoleonic dictatorship, the ultimate effects of it emphasising constitutional and civil liberty tended to maintain themselves in Europe The period 1815-48 saw revolutionary movements in different parts of Europe A 'constitution' came to be regarded as a mystic talisman in the minds of the

people who believed that it would work magical wonders for their happiness In Russia, crowds shouted the word "Constitution" under the impression that it was the name of their leader's wife Such was the fury of the populace in Vienna that Metternich, the reactionary minister of the Emperor of Austria, had to flee out of the city in disguise concealed amidst the contents of a laundry cart

The hatred for Austrian domination was symbolised at Milan by the people boycotting Austrian tobacco So, the Austrian soldiers there were given orders to puff smoke in the faces of the passers by The following story illustrates the patriotic fury of even the illiterate Italian The Italian was dealing in plaster casts of famous historical personages An Austrian, who picked up a cast of Rienzi, dropped it by chance, and it was shattered The Italian, in a fit of rage, angrily shouted 'I will teach you a good lesson for this contempt you show to our heroes', and picking up a cast of Maria Theresa from his shelf, flung it on the floor. Pointing a trembling finger at the fragments, he cried in triumph "Look at that Austrian now!"

For a time, reaction maintained itself, and the revolutionary movements mostly collapsed The Revolution of 1848 in France was soon followed by the despotism of Napoleon III who pretended to base his power on popular sovereignty. This vainglorious Emperor, who is said to have spoken all languages with a German accent and German with a Swiss accent ultimately fell after the disaster of the Franco German War of 1870 In the

Papal States, the zeal to destroy the work of the reform party led to the abolition of vaccination and street lighting as revolutionary innovation. In Naples, the excavations at Pompeii begun by the French scientists were stopped.

In England, where a bloodless change had gradually substituted the rule of the masses for the rule of an aristocracy no disturbances occurred. Even the chartist movement there was a tame affair. The Government wisely never tried to drive it underground by repression. The good humoured way in which affairs went on is illustrated by the story that when a mob leader cried the slogan 'Give me Liberty or Death', the sentry at the gate of the Palace replied 'I cannot give you Liberty, but I can give you the other at once if you want it so urgently.' The leader vanished from the scene.

Parliamentary elections furnish plentiful instances of interesting anecdotes. The seamier side of elections is corruption. 18th century England was the hot bed of electoral and Parliamentary corruption. A candidate promised £5 per head to those who voted for him. His opponent proclaimed that he would give 10 guineas. He naturally succeeded. Now, one, who voted for him, went to him and asked for the money. He looked at him in surprise, and said 'The announced gift of 10 guineas was for the disinterested conduct of those who did not take bribes from my opponent. For me now to pay them would be a violation of my own and their principles.' Of course, he would not get in at the next election. But he was now secure for seven years,

as according to the Septennial Act, the House of Commons then had a life of seven years. Even in 1852, a speech in Parliament revealed a common trick. The voter enters the room of the agent.

Agent—Well, Mr Smith, how are you feeling today? (holding three fingers)

Voter (dissatisfied)—Not very well

Agent—I'm sorry you are not very well (Holds five fingers)

Voter—Oh, I'm not very ill. It's all right (looks out of the window, while the agent places £5 on the table. The agent, now, in his turn, leans out of the window. When he turns round, the voter and the money have both disappeared. Neither committed a technical corruption)

Mr Labouchere mentions in 1890 "I had to kiss babies and pay compliments to mothers." One voter was detained from reaching the polling booth by a bribed boatman who kept him in the middle of the river. Another old and decrepit voter was prevented from emerging out of his house by cabs being put to run at him whenever he tried to come out.

If things were thus after the passing of the Corrupt Practices Act, we can imagine how things would have been before. Lord Dundonald (Autobiography) refers to a voter who boasted that he always voted for Mr Most.

Parliamentary corruption was also at its worst in 18th century England. Walpole, who perfected this, once wanted to carry a matter through the House of Commons. He met a member who was, he knew, a

hankerer after money, and said to him "Give me your vote today, and here is a bank bill. The member put the bill into his pocket, saying 'Sir Robert, when my wife was last at Court the King was very gracious towards her. This must have happened at your instance. Hence, I'm grateful and will do the favour you ask for.' On another occasion Walpole was bargaining with a follower who wanted a bigger job than what he offered to him. Finding the man adamant, Walpole pretended to put on a rueful face and murmured 'I suppose I must offer the post to Mr X.' The astonished visitor cried out 'To Mr X! Impossible! He is a Tory and perhaps a Jacobite.' Walpole responded 'It is all true. But if by one o'clock you do not accept my offer, by two o'clock Mr X becomes Lord Keeper and one of the staunchest Whigs in England. The bargain was closed at once. Walpole was of course, somewhat cynical, and he really seems to have said once 'Patriots, sir? Why, patriots spring like mushrooms. I've raised many of them in one night.' But it is not true that he said 'All men have their price.' He simply said 'All these men have their price,' referring to a particular group.

Hecklers form the worst nightmare of candidates. Joseph Chamberlain was speaking. It was a strongly packed demonstration. A man in the most crowded corner kept on shouting. What did Mr Gladstone say in 1881? till he was finally lifted by the stewards over the heads of his companions and cast into the street. A friend asked him later 'Well, what did Gladstone say in 1881?' 'Hang it, man, I don't know, and don't care to know. I wanted to get out of that damned crush. I would have fainted had I not got out of that horrible room.'

A candidate, badly defeated, gave up his political ambitions. A friend asked him 'What made you give up politics?' 'Well, I had a hint that I was not suited for it. "I see, some little birds

whispered it, I suppose." "No, but they might have become little birds, if they had been allowed to hatch."

An over confident candidate got only one vote besides his own. Curious to find out the lone voter, he offered a reward for him. In due course, the man, a sturdy sailor, appeared and received the reward. The candidate good humouredly patted him on his back and said "My dear man I am very glad that you were on my side, though we are unknown. I daresay that you must have heard about my merits. The sailor, shamefully, scratched his skin and replied "Sure, Sir I made a mistake in the ballot paper."

Lord Byron once made a violent speech in which he said 'It is a most flagrant violation of the constitution. If permitted, it would end English freedom.' A member of the audience asked 'What, Sir is this dreadful grievance?' The noble lord paused to think and sat down saying 'Oh, I forget.' Here are some amusing stories of repartees of voters —

Voter—'No, I'm voting Tory, as my father and grand father did before me.'

Candidate—'Well, I must say that it is not an intelligent answer.' If your father and grandfather had been thieves, what would you have been?

Voter (calmly) "If so, I would certainly be a Whig."

The same candidate once asked a voter "My dear man you gave me a nasty look! What is wrong?" The voter replied "Yes you certainly have a nasty look. But, I didn't give it to you." He, once, met another whose face he knew but could not quite place it. "Now, where in hell have I seen you?" he asked perplexedly. "From where in hell do you come, sir?" the voter replied.

It was in the excitement of the general elections of 1910 in connection with the Parliament Bill. A peer boasted in a meeting that he was lord of the manor

A voice shouted "Then you ought to have the manner of a lord" Another lord said "All of you have heard of Dick Whittington who was thrice Lord Mayor of London Well, I, am not exactly descended from him, but . . ." A voice interrupted "From his cat" The further remarks of the lord were drowned in the laughter which ensued

The War was on A candidate was addressing a meeting expatiating on patriotism and the duty of citizens A voice suddenly wailed 'Oh, minister, what is the world to a man, if his wife is a widow?

A veteran of the war had as his opponent a Pacifist In his speech, he would say 'I have fought and bled for our country' At the close of one of his speeches, an old man elbowed his way to him and said with deep emotion "I am afraid that I will have to vote for the other, as I feel that you have done enough for your country already"

Sir Ian Malcolm in his "Trodden ways" says that Sir Richard, Temple, wooing a constituency, said "I have travelled 8000 miles and surrendered an income of £5000 a year for the privilege of representing this great constituency" The inevitable voice ejaculated "Oh, what a damned fool you must be!" Another candidate asked a rather cynical voter whether his neighbours would return him He replied 'Then, it will be the only thing they had returned in their lives'

It was in an Irish election The candidate, a dandy, wanted to raise a cheap laugh at the expense of an elderly labourer He said to him 'Now, my dear man, tell me the biggest lie you have ever told and I will treat you to a whisky punch' The workman retorted "By my soul, your honner is a perfect gentleman"

Sometimes, the candidates get the better. A drunk and excited man was persistently heckling an aristocratic speaker, saying "I'm as good as you What's the

difference between you and me? The Candidate retorted "One difference is that you drink and don't work, and that I work, but don't drink"

The same speaker was interrupted on another occasion by an angry man "We won't have our food taxed No taxes on food!" The speaker coolly replied "Console yourself, my friend. We are not going to tax thistles". Perhaps it was he who was asked by a man "Is it true you were let out of an asylum on a doctor's certificate to fight this election?" The candidate replied "No But, it is more than any doctor could do for you"

A story is told that Fox asked a shopkeeper of the opposite party for his vote The merchant produced a halter and said that was the only thing he could give him Fox bowed and said "Thanks But, I cannot think of depriving you of it as, no doubt, it is a family relic"

There is the oft told story of the speaker who was asked whether he violently beat his wife to force his view on her He said "First, I never attempt to influence my wife in her views Second, it is not my custom to beat my wife Finally, I do not have a wife" The late Lord Lloyd George was well known for his skill in repartees At a meeting, he 'was pleading for Home Rule for Ireland, for Scotland and for Wales An Angry Unionist shouted "Home Rule for Hell!" Lloyd George unperturbed, turned towards the disturber, and said 'That's right Everyman for his own place' A story, whether true or false, says that a woman screamed at "Lloyd George, if you were my husband I would give you poison" Lloyd George coolly replied "And, if I were your husband, I would gladly take it"

Wooing ignorant voters is a very difficult task In 1906, almost all electors in a Unionist hamlet voted for the Home Rule candidate thinking Home Rule was a measure intended to keep Irishmen at home and

prevent them from competing with English workers in England at harvest time. A voter refused to vote for the Conservatives, because they wanted Protection which he interpreted as compulsory vaccination. A candidate was sternly refused admission into a house. When he finally got in after much persuasion the voter confessed that he had mistaken him for the rate collector. Another voter admitted that he was a Conservative, because his mother was employed as a charwoman at the Conservative club. A voter, who was an undertaker by profession, congratulated the Liberal candidate in advance, saying that he would succeed, as he had buried fifteen more Conservatives than Liberals since the year began. In the election of 1906, an Irish voter was threatened by the priest that, if he voted for a particular candidate, he would be turned into a rat. The voter left the house to record his vote as he wanted,

but took the precaution of calling out to his wife, as he left "You'd better kill the cat, just in case." An agent for a candidate found only the wife of the voter at home. He asked her "Madam, may I know what colour is your husband?" She stared at him for a moment and replied tartly "Well, if it interests you, he used to be fair, but is a bit darker now." An enterprising lady canvasser was working in a rural area. Adopting her method of leading up to the subject by casual conversation, she got into talk with a farmer and said "I am very fond of Hogg's Tales. They seem to be popular in these parts." The farmer said "Yes, marm, I also like them, roasted with salt on 'em." The lady persisted "No, I do not mean that at all. Have you not read Hogg's Tales?" The farmer replied "No. Our hogs are all white or black. I don't think there is a red one amongst them."

SAINTSBURY THE CRITIC

BY MR. AUGUSTUS MUIR

WHEN the centenary of the birth of George Saintsbury was recently celebrated, many tributes were paid to his memory. Those who had sat at his feet as students while he lectured on English literature saluted the name of a great professor, scholars and critics acknowledged how deeply he had influenced them, and many others told how Saintsbury had deepened their joy in life by his writings.

For as well as being a great appraiser and historian of literature he was a lover of the good and gracious things of life, of good food, good wine, of the open air, of pregnant talk. He lived to the age of 87, venerated by scholars in Britain and elsewhere and his richly diverse personality left its mark upon both his own contemporaries and the younger generation.

It is not often that a man's fame grows in the years that follow close upon his

death. Yet George Saintsbury is probably even more widely revered today than during his lifetime. Those who knew him personally are never likely to forget one detail of that tall, white-haired figure, the strong, ruddy, bearded face, the shrewd eyes that were so ready to smile in amusement or flash in scorn, the rapid voice that often could hardly keep pace with the lightning speed of his thought, the wit and the allusive humour of his conversation, the occasional barbed satire amid so much deep generosity, and the continual eagerness to discover and illumine the merit in good work of any kind.

A man of tremendous gusto, is it surprising that so many of his sayings were quoted both inside and outside his circle of acquaintances—and are still repeated? Is it surprising that even his early fugitive writings are treasured by all who have fallen under his spell?

His career was shaped by a discovery he made about himself when he was little more than a youth. He realised that he was not destined to create great literature, but he knew he had 'some faculty of appreciating it' and he set out to "assist that faculty in others." Since he did not shine in the examinations at Oxford, a scholarly life within the walls of that University was denied to him, and after a few years of school-mastering, he found himself earning his living in London as a literary journalist, writing for all manner of papers on all kinds of subjects.

Soon he had built a reputation, soon he was on terms of friendship with some of the leading literary men of his time, with Robert Louis Stevenson, William Ernest Henley, Andrew Lang. And in addition to his large output for periodicals, he undertook the work of editing reprints of major and minor classics and of writing introductions to them.

So prodigious was his industry during these years in London that if his writings were gathered into volumes, they would have filled—on his own estimate—more than one hundred stout quartos. That he found time to read so widely is astonishing. No man had ever read more of both English and French literature, and his wide range is revealed in his volumes of collected essays. Then came the crowning moment of his career: he was appointed Professor of English Literature at Edinburgh University.

Although he laid down the pen of a journalist to become a lecturer, he continued to write. It was with immense vivacity that he tackled scholarly subjects such as the *History of Prosody* and the *History of Criticism*, which had never before been treated on so vast a scale. He edited a *History of European Literature* in twelve volumes, covering the whole subject from the fall of the Roman Empire to the later nineteenth century, and wrote several of the volumes himself.

He was the chief contributor to the monumental *Cambridge History of English*

Literature; and he came before a wider public as the editor of Balzac's novels and of the Oxford edition of Thackeray. He is the greatest interpreter of the seventeenth century poet and dramatist John Dryden, who dominated a transition period in English literature. All this was but part of his literary production during those busy years.

In spite of his immense labours he found time to cultivate the pleasant things of life, to dine with his friends, to enjoy well cooked food, to savour the best of wine. One of the many friends he entertained has said: "Meals in the Saintsbury house were a revelation, in more things than the pleasures of the table, he could reconstruct the whole history of Europe from a single dish".

He has himself written about some of those dinners in his *Notes on a Cellar Book*, which is one of his most delightful volumes. In its pages, he looks back as an old man over a lifetime in which the appreciation of wine was one of his special joys. So high was his reputation as a connoisseur that a group of his admirers founded a dining club in his honour: a regular feature of the Saintsbury Club dinners is an oration designed to illumine some phase of his personality.

Retiring at the age of 70 from the Chair of Literature at Edinburgh, he went to spend the remainder of his life in Bath, with its dignified eighteenth century buildings, its atmosphere of a placid age. With great delight, he became a critic once more, reading largely in contemporary books as they came from the press, and writing about them with penetrating power.

His friends went there to visit him, and he kept up a flow of correspondence with those from whom he was now separated. He expressed a wish that no biography of himself should be written and what a book teeming with humanity it would have been—but we learn much about him by reading his Scrap Books, as he called his three volumes of garnered notes and papers, reminiscences chosen at random from nearly every period in his life and set down in his own characteristic style.

BIRDS OF INDIA

By MR H B HUDSON

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The study of birds in India is of particular interest because of the great variety. This wealth of bird life in this country is due to the variety of climate from the snows of the Himalayas to the torrid heat of the Rajputana desert. In this talk Mr Hudson briefly refers to different types including the visitors or 'migrants' as well as the common order of the small birds of the gardens and thickets. No one could live in India and not hear the clear liquid call of the bulbuls,] says the writer. To see these birds, must give pleasure to thousands. And there is a good deal of scope for research, particularly amongst the commoner species—[ED J. R.]

WHEREVER you are in India unless you have the misfortune to live in a tent in the middle of a desert you will have birds to watch. I am sure you will agree that in order to watch them intelligently something more than an elementary knowledge of their names and plumage is necessary. I myself do not agree with a purely scientific approach to my amusements, but I nevertheless do not think the purely æsthetic approach is enough. When your interest is aroused you will require more information, which you will obtain, to a great extent, from your own observations, but there are many good books on the subject, which you cannot ignore if you intend to learn something of the knowledge which has been collected during the past fifty years or so.

I cannot enter into a catalogue of bird books, but I feel I should recommend two. The first is called *Watching Birds* by James Fisher. This is a Penguin book, and is of general interest. The second is Hugh Whistler's *Popular Handbook of Indian Birds*. Armed with these two volumes, you will be able to learn a considerable amount.

As I have said wherever you may happen to be in India you will have birds to watch. At this time of the year a large number of people visit the hills. I myself have had many interesting hours this year at Kasauli in the Simla Hills first of all during a visit in April and then again after the rains had started. I had been in Delhi until mid April and during the limited time

I was able to go into the country I had seen the spring migrations in full force. I was particularly interested in noting the movements of Brahmany duck, wagtails and hoopoes because I had kept records of their appearances for some years in such diverse places as the CP hills and plains, Bengal, Tibet and Assam.

It was interesting to be able to fill in another stage of their wanderings, and I watch the hoopoe with greater pleasure than I watch most birds because I have recorded this very decorative and entertaining species from Surrey, through southern Europe to Tibet, and in every place I have visited in India except Assam, and I may have been too busy there to have noticed him, but I can't believe that there are resident hoopoes and hoopoes which migrate, some locally, some for considerable distances. Many fly across the Himalayas every year and nest in the walls of Tibetan monasteries. For all I know it may have been one of those which settled on the lawn one very wet day in July when I was looking out of the window in England.

My first few days in the hills were, from an ornithological point of view, very busy. I was lucky enough to find a hill on the precipitous side of which were the nests of a Himalayan Griffon vulture, two pairs of kestrels and a shikra. That was in April. They were still there in late May but had left towards the end of June. The family of falcons is an attractive one. They are magnificent birds to watch, with

such wonderful powers of flight, and their form and plumage is very fine

I was out for a walk near Peshavar last January, towards the Khyber hills. It was evening and large flocks of starlings were flying across the fields. Suddenly there was a crack like a pistol shot, and I saw a peregrine falcon had stooped at a small flock a few yards from me. He had missed that time, but he flew round watching for another chance. The evasive action taken by the starlings was very effective. They continued to come across the fields in large numbers but whereas they had previously been flying about fifty feet above the ground they now flew so low that the peregrine did not dare stoop again because his attack is made at tremendous speed and he has to carry on the line of flight far below his victim. The starlings were perfectly safe if they continued to hug the ground but one flight came over at the usual height. The falcon was on to them in a second there was another crack and he soared away with a starling in his talons, alighting on a tree stump to enjoy his meal.

This story brings me to another incident which I saw, this time on the upward plateau of Tibet. I cannot refrain from telling you about it although when I do tell people they usually think I am inventing it. I was riding along a stretch of very open country when I saw a lammergeier swoop down and pick up a hare, which it must have seen lying amongst the tufts of grass. It carried the hare up to about fifty feet and then dropped it. The hare appeared to be quite unhurt and ran away.

Now this was not quite such an extraordinary thing to see as you may imagine. The lammergeier has a habit of taking things up in the air and dropping them. One of its names used to be the "ossifrage", or bone breaker. You can see this enormous bird in the hills of India. It is of a light tawny colour with a yellowish buff under plumage. It hunts garbings

heaps and slaughter houses, and, when standing on the ground is fully three feet high. You will not mistake it if you remember that it has a well-shaped tail. It is almost extinct in Europe, where it used to be the lamb eagle of Alpine story. I have heard that it is still to be found in southern Europe, and that it takes tortoises up and drops them on the rocks in Greece. It is said that Archylus was killed by a tortoise dropping on his head.

As for peregrine falcons, you may see this fine hawk in most parts of India during the winter. Kestrels are common in the north west, or so I have noticed. Owing to the fact that I have spent much time in barren, stony places I have become interested in the bird life of these semi-deserts. It is remarkable what a large variety inhabits an apparently waterless, desolate area.

Well, birds do not live where there is no food, and if you walk about such places as those I refer to, you will find that there is a multitude of small insect life and usually some rodents. It is curious how birds will adapt themselves to their surroundings. The kestrels, as I have described, nest usually in a rocky hillside and hawks generally choose ledges in steep crags for their nesting places. But if there are no crags and no ledges they have been known to nest on the ground.

India's rivers and lakes are inhabited by that large number of species which are known as waders. You have probably seen one of the ibises. There are three species of which the black and white are the most common. I have seen them in large numbers from the train when travelling between Delhi and Bombay. During the monsoon in full swing, the CP is a good place to see waders. The *sheels* and rivers between Saugor and Jubbulpore are a happy hunting ground for stilts, spoonbills, sarus, cranes, jacanas and grebes.

In this talk I have but briefly sketched some of the aspects of Indian birds. I

have not touched upon the most common order of all, the passerine, which contains all the small birds of the gardens and thickets, which are the ones which we notice most and which have the sweetest songs. No one could live in India and not hear the clear, liquid call of the bulbuls. To see these birds must give

pleasure to thousands. But the field is too great for any details and I will end my talk by reminding the ornithologists among you that there is still a good deal of research to be done, particularly amongst the commoner species. To the embryo bird watcher I extend a welcome into the field. — *Broadcast from Delhi*

AKBAR'S CHURCH AT AGRA

EARLY CHRISTIANITY IN NORTH INDIA

By Miss WAHIDA AZIZ

THE modern city of Agra was founded by Akbar in 1558, opposite to the old city on the left bank of the river. While his Fort palaces and the magnificent public buildings are so well known to all few visitors are aware of the existence of a chapel known as Akbar's Church, though it is one of the earliest Christian places of worship in Northern India.

Akbar's Church is in fact the history of early Christianity in Northern India. It is a faithful record of the first Jesuit Mission, and is among the few authentic accounts of the doings of the early European settlers and others who were attracted to this cosmopolitan city and metropolis of the Great Moghul Empire from almost every quarter of the globe.

It is on record that Akbar invited the Jesuit Fathers from Goa through an emissary bearing the royal invitation addressed to the 'Chief Padre'. The Father Provincial was delighted at the invitation and appointed the Revd Fathers Rudolf Acquaviva, Anthony Monsterrat and Henriquez to accompany the emissary. The latter was a man of great piety whose knowledge of Persian stood the missionaries in good stead, at the Moghul Court.

The Mission met the Emperor at the latter's new capital at Fatehpur Sikri, where he frequently invited them for discussions on points of theology and philosophy. They were shown great honour and were soon taken into royal

favour. It is from here that the foundation of the Christian Church in these parts begins.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Mirza Zulkarnain, a nobleman and favourite of Akbar, who is known as the 'Father of Moghul Christianity', was responsible for the erection of this church. A few other families including some Armenian merchants, also offered their services. According to a letter of Fr Pierre du Jarric Prince Salim (Jehangir) was at that time residing in Agra and seeing that there was no church he asked His Majesty to permit a church to be built there.

His request was granted and he gave 1000 crowns for the commencement of the work. Khawaja Martin, an Armenian, a rich Christian merchant and Mirza Sikandar (senior) contributed generously towards its building. The permission was accorded by a 'Firman' Shahi which translated into English reads —

'Firman of Jalal ud Din Akbar. It has been represented to us that the Revd Fathers are desirous of erecting in the city a house for Divine worship. We accordingly grant this, implicit obedience to which is necessary, and order that all officers concerned must under no circumstance interfere with the said house of worship.

Writing to his General about this church on September 6 1604, Fr Jerome

Xavier says 'The first stone was laid with great solemnity. Many Muslims were present and were greatly edified by the ceremonial which Christians use on these occasions. These works are not so expensive here as in other places, being made of bricks. The chapel will be finished though perfect workmanship may be wanting. It is badly needed as the Christians are very crowded in our small chapel.'

It is stated that the founders of the church (Philip Bourbone and his wife Bibi Juliana) are buried in the church and that Akbar came frequently to pray here.

EMPEROR'S FAVOUR

Barnier says: Akbar called the Jesuit Fathers and gave them a pension for their subsistence, permitting them to build churches in the capital cities of Agra and Lahore and his son Jehangir favoured them more. Cornelius Hazart relates that Jehangir on his arrival at Agra some time later found the Christian Church not so large and beautiful as the one at Lahore and ordered at once a large sum to be given to the erection of a better building.

The Firman of Jehangir is still preserved in the Mission Archives of Agra. This new house of worship must have been a most imposing building, because Barnier says 'Shah Jehan, son of Jehangir took from them (the Fathers) their pension, caused the Church at Lahore to be pulled down and the greatest part of that in Agra overthrowing also the steeple of the church wherein was a bell that could be heard all over the town.'

The church had three bells, one of them a present from Jehangir. A German traveller, in his graphic description of Shah Jehan's reign (1628-38) says 'Some of the streets were vaulted like our modern arcades. There were 70 great mosques and 800 public baths. Every nation which traded with the East had an establishment at Agra, the English amongst them. Christians were tolerated

there and the Jesuits had a fine church of their own.

It is also on record that the church was burnt down in the reign of Jehangir, but it was rebuilt soon afterwards. Writing in 1614, Withington says: 'The Jesuits have a very fair church, built by the King. Soon after its demolition by Shah Jehan (about 1633), the Jesuit Fathers must have obtained permission to rebuild the church because in 1640, when Father Manrique passed through Agra he found the Jesuits there, for he passed the Christmas with them.'

On the invasion of Hindustan by Ahmed Khan Abdali (1758) this church must have undergone another spoliation at the hands of the Afghan soldiery, because Tieffenthaler says that if Strobel, who died at Agra in 1758, had placed the Georgian soldiers of the Afghan army to protect the church, the Afghan soldiers would not have taken away all the furniture of the house, penetrated the church where they broke all sacred images and spoiled the altar ornaments.

In 1769, when Father Francis Xavier Wendel came to Agra, he tried to repair the church, as a slab above a door on the right gives the following inscription 'IHS—Anno Mdcclxix'. It appears that for some unknown reasons he must have been unable to continue its restoration, but three years later in 1772 he finished it by the generous help of Walter Reinhardt, better known as General Sombre or Sumroo, the husband of the famous Begum Samroo.

Attached to the church is a small cemetery which contains the remains of Reinhardt, Geronimo Veroneo, the Italian to whom the design of the Taj is wrongly attributed, and General Hessian, who held Agra Fort for the Maharattas in 1794. It is a pity that such a historical building is not under the protection of the Archaeological Department of the Government of India.

THE LATE SIR P. S. SIVASWAMI AIYAR

BY MR G. A NATESAN

THE passing away of Sir P S Sivaswami Aiyar, recalls to one's mind the story of a singularly beneficent life

As a student, Sivaswami Aiyar showed academic abilities of a high order. As a practising lawyer, he set an example to the members of his profession by his uprightness and fairness in presenting a case. As a member of the Legislative Council and later of the Central Assembly, he had shown how one, though enjoying the reputation of being a moderate, could present the case for the people as against the Government in forcible and convincing language and he was unsparing in his denunciation of Government's policy when he was convinced that it deserved it. One will remember the memorable indictment of the Martial Law outrages following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. One might also recall at this juncture his strong condemnation of the short sighted policy of the authorities in not affording facilities to the children of the soil for equipping themselves in the task of defence of their Motherland. As a member of the Executive Council of the Government of Madras, he gave signal proof of his talent for sound and efficient administration. As a citizen, in his own quiet and unostentatious manner he was participating in all the movements that made for peace and progress and set a high standard of integrity in public life. Of him it can be truly said that on all questions affecting the interests of the country he spoke and wrote what he felt genuinely. With him there could be no compromise between right and wrong in any manner. To know him was to be irresistibly drawn to him by the silken tie of affection and respect. In him we had the finest embodiment of Eastern and Western culture.

It was my good fortune to have known him for over four decades and latterly to know him intimately. I can claim not only

his friendship but his affection as well which I had ever highly prized. An up to date student of the classics of the East and West and of politics, religion and philosophy, he always had something interesting to present to those who sought his company. His wise learning, his great culture and his travels abroad endowed him with a breadth of vision which very few in our generation could lay claim to. His depth of understanding easily marked him out as a superior man. There was a singular dignity in the method and manner of his speech.

But the outstanding feature of his great and noble life will always be his well-conceived and well planned benefactions. Only those that came into intimate contact with him could testify to his burning desire to devote his large well earned savings amounting to several lakhs to the cause of the education of our boys and girls. The Thirukkattupalli High School which he founded and fostered is one of the proofs of his discerning benefactions. Nearer home in the city of Madras, the National Girls' High School, Mylapore, is another gift of his. The scrupulous care which he took in rearing up these two institutions the minute attention he was paying to laying down the plans for their efficient working, the way in which he constituted their governing bodies and the active interest which he continued to take till his last moments in the day to day administration of the two institutions were a rare sight indeed! Constantly thinking of his advancing age, he was anxious day and night, to see the completion of his charities in his own life time. His memory will live long and may the institutions which he brought into existence thrive for ever! May his memory be a beaconlight to generations of Indians yet unborn!

Life a race well run
Life a work well done,
Life a victory won,
No more cometh rest

THE MEERUT CONGRESS

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THE 54th Session of the Indian National Congress met at the newly improvised Pyarelal Nagar at Meerut after an interval of six years, years marked by rapid and momentous changes in Indian, as in world history. The Subjects Committee met on the 21st (November) afternoon and the proceedings commenced straightway without the usual demonstrations of spectacular scenes. Shorn of all decorations there was an air of austerity about the pandal. The atmosphere prevailing inside the pandal bore a clear stamp of countrywide disturbances and dislocations, and the proceedings of the Committee went on in a thoroughly business like fashion under the new President Acharya Kripalani, who has been General Secretary of the Congress for the last twelve years.

Excepting the officials and members of the Reception Committee, there were few visitors. Pandit Nehru, Mr. Badshah Khan, Sardar Patel, Maulana Azad, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Pandit Pant, Dr. Patlabhi, Sardar Pratap Singh and other leaders took part in the discussions in a quiet, business like way. Pandit Nehru, the outgoing President, handed over charge officially to Acharya Kripalani, the President elect. Acharya Kripalani, the incoming President, took the chair and made a brief speech in which he pointed out that the Subjects Committee was meeting after an interval of six years during which the world scene had undergone a revolutionary change and India had now reached the critical stage in her march towards independence. He said:

He was sensible of the difference between himself and his predecessors in the high office which he was taking over but was strengthened by the intimate knowledge and understanding established between himself and Congressmen in general during the last twelve years when he had been the General Secretary. He was confident that he would therefore not have any difficulty in the task with which he has been entrusted and he hoped he could rely on the indulgence of the Congressmen.

The Committee passed by an overwhelming majority, only 30 opposing, Maulana Azad's resolution confirming and ratifying the decisions of the Working Committee and

AICC including the formation of the Interim Government.

Commending the resolution, Maulana Azad reminded the Committee of the circumstances and the developments of the last six months in the light of which the decision was taken to form the Interim Government. In his view, the Working Committee has done its duty and had later been supported in its decision by the AICC.

Pandit Pant, seconding the resolution, said that the implications of the decisions mentioned in the resolution had been debated for six months in the country. He refuted the argument that what had been formed at the Centre was no more than an Executive Council. If it was merely an Executive Council then the Viceroy, he said, would not have invited one person to form it. Pandit Pant referred to the Constituent Assembly due to meet on December 9 and expressed the hope that the Congress would succeed in using it to establish a democratic state in India. If, however, the Congress failed, then he assured the meeting the way was quite clear before the Congress.

Sardar Pratap Singh, another Working Committee member, supported the resolution. Strong opposition was expressed by Mr. Achut Patwardhan and other Socialists, who, however, did not desire their attitude to be understood as expressing want of confidence in the Congress Ministers of the Interim Government, but they criticised the Interim Government's policy, particularly in relation to communal situation.

But the highlight of the session was the revelation of an impending crisis which was brewing in the capital.

PANDIT NEHRU'S DISCLOSURES

In an outspoken declaration Pandit Nehru disclosed that the atmosphere in the Interim Government after the League's entry had become so strained that the Congress members had twice threatened to resign.

He added 'Our patience is fast approaching the limit. If these things continue, a struggle on a large scale is inevitable.'

He charged the Viceroy with failure to carry on the Government in the spirit in which he had started. 'He is gradually removing the wheel of the car, and this is leading to a critical situation.' 'The League, he said, 'is endeavouring to establish itself as "the King's Party" in the Government. "There is also a mental alliance between the League and the senior British officials"'

Pandit Nehru was speaking on a political resolution which he moved. The resolution said

On eve of the summoning of the Constituent Assembly to frame a Constitution for India the Congress declares that it stands for an independent Sovereign Republic wherein all powers and authority are derived from the people and for a Constitution wherein social objectives are laid down to promote freedom progress and equal opportunity for all the people of India so that this ancient land attain its rightful and honoured place in the world and make its full contribution to the promotion of world peace and the progress and welfare of mankind and directs all Congress men to work to this end

Pandit Nehru suggested that the resolution was in the nature of a directive to Congress members of the Constituent Assembly. This was the first time that we used the words 'independent Sovereign Republic' to describe our objective. The resolution contained an indication that this Republic would have a Socialist basis.

Referring to the Constituent Assembly, and the Congress decision to enter it, Pandit Nehru said that if the League did not accept the proposals of May 16 as was clear from Mr. Jinnah's letter to the Viceroy, then there was no room for League representatives in the Interim Government.

While they are welcome to join the Constituent Assembly let me make it clear that whether they come in or keep out we will go on.

I am not enamoured of this Constituent Assembly. But we have accepted it and we shall work it and get the fullest advantage out of it. I do not regard it as by any means the last Constituent Assembly. It may be that

after India achieves ampler freedom, another Constituent Assembly will be called.

The only good thing about this Constituent Assembly is that the British power will not be directly represented in it, though we may not be able to check its indirect representation by the backdoor.

Pandit Nehru reiterated the determination to go into the Constituent Assembly in full strength and fully organised.

We will enter it not in order to quarrel over petty things but to establish the Indian republic. (Cheers)

Opposing Mr. Jinnah's demand for postponement *sine die* Pandit Nehru said postponement for five months would mean that would never meet.

Greetings to the new Indonesian Republic were conveyed in another resolution while three other resolutions sought to ratify the decision taken for the formation of the Interim Government, and endorse the A I C C resolution on South Africa and the Working Committee resolution on East Africa.

Strong condemnation of retaliatory communal violence was made by the Working Committee in a resolution adopted on Bihar. The Working Committee paid tribute to Pandit Malaviya in another resolution.

The Committee met again the next day to complete preparatory work for the session.

The Subjects Committee of the Congress concluded its session the next day after a seven hour sitting in which it passed five of the lengthiest resolutions ever brought before it and referred a number of other resolutions to the Working Committee for suitable action.

The resolutions passed contained a retrospect of events during the last 6½ years a re-affirmation of the attitude to the communal situation and the Indian States, an amplification of the Congress conception of Swaraj and general directive with regard to revision of the Congress constitution.

The debate on "Retrospect" and on the communal situation was in the nature of an extension of the previous day's proceedings and had produced strong

work of goondas but asserted they were part of a game played to achieve political ends

Referring to the Interim Government, Sardar Patel said

We joined the Government with the full and firm determination to remain there. We have no intention of leaving it ourselves. The only way to make us leave it is to dismiss us or to convince us that continuance in it is futile.

The House loudly applauded the disclosure made by Sardar Patel that the Viceroy replying to Pandit Nehru's letter had stated on October 23 as follows: "As I told you Mr Jinnah has assured me that the Muslim League will come into the Government and the Constituent Assembly with the intention of co-operating." This exposure of the League leader showed to the delegates that Pandit Nehru and his colleagues were blameless and that the Viceroy, who stood surety for Mr Jinnah, has been personally let down.

DR PATTABHI ON INDIAN STATES

Moving the resolution on Indian States already adopted by the Subjects Committee, Dr Pattabhi Sitaramayya, President All India States People Conference, stated that he had seen a confidential document indicating a move to form a Confederation of the 562 Indian States in order to negotiate with the future Central Government.

Dr Pattabhi declared that the people of the States would never recognise the Negotiating Committee unless their representatives were included in it.

The time had come he said, when the Congress could no longer ignore the problem of the States but what our next step should be was a matter which could only be decided after full consideration.

Freedom should not come to only one part of the country. The whole of India should get it.

Though the States in general were still carrying on their reactionary way, yet as Zamindars who were once reactionary, were now anxious for an equitable settlement, Princes also would before long be in a similar reasonable frame of mind.

After several other speakers had taken part in the discussions Pandit Nehru vigorously refuted the statement made by some of the earlier speakers that the Congress had not given support to the people of the States. He was amazed that there should be anyone who could make such statements. The Praja Mandals and the States Peoples Conference owed their origin to the interest taken by the Congress.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS

This resolution having been passed the session adopted three resolutions moved by the chair on South Africa, East Africa and greetings to Indonesia.

INTER COMMUNAL UNITY

Dr Rajendra Prasad then moved the resolution on the Communal situation. He said the happenings in the country were such as to make us hang our heads down in a shame. It was the duty of every Congressman to stop them and to carry the message of harmony to the furthest corner. It was unfortunate that while Indians had exercised self-restraint in carrying on their fight with the foreign Government they should have lost self-control in dealing with their domestic differences. He recognised that when one side preached violence, it became difficult for the other side to defend itself with non-violence. But there could be no excuse for retaliation which brought misery to the innocent. He urged that immediate attention be given to bringing relief to the victims of the riots.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, seconding the resolution, urged that the Congress should now squarely face up to the communal situation or perish. It was true that communal riots had occurred in the past and to our misfortune had recurred at frequent intervals. Occasional sparks had now started a forest fire, threatening to consume all of us. The Congress had a special responsibility in dealing with the present situation. "If you are a part of the Congress, you do not give up your faith. But whether you are

a Hindu or a Muslim, you must share the blame or the credit for whatever happens'.

The first thing that every Congressman—Hindu and Muslim—should do was to look inwards and put to ourselves the question 'Am I free from bitterness in my mind'?

THE SESSION CONCLUDES

The 54th Session at Meerut ended on Nov 24th evening with a valedictory address by the President, Acharya Kripalani, who appealed to the Hindus and Muslims to live together as they have done for centuries past like friends and neighbours. If they did not live together peacefully, he said, nature itself would impose a means of reconciliation.

The Congress President made a strong plea for the adherence of the principle of non-violence not only in solving communal disturbances but also in achieving freedom. In his concluding speech Acharya Kripalani made a fervent appeal for communal unity. He said that

any Hindu who offends a Mussalman will do injustice to his community and this country. Any Muslim who offends a Hindu is destroying his religion and the country. If this country is to rise it will rise by non violence and by no other method. Those who live by the sword shall die by the sword.

The Congress President added

If you are going to solve your problems by untruth and by crooked diplomacy, world problems

will not be solved. In one world the difference between Socialism and Gandhism is that Mahatma Gandhi says that the means shall be as pure as your ends are high. High aims cannot be served by crooked means. The world will not be safe from war or strife until this doctrine is accepted.

The Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Congress, Mr Choudhry Raghuvar Narayan Singh, thanked workers who had helped in holding the Session and in particular the volunteers.

THE NEW WORKING COMMITTEE

Acharya Kripalani, the Congress President, has since announced the names of members of the new Working Committee. There are few changes in the personnel as the new President is anxious to retain the valued help of the old and experienced veterans of the Congress.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, Sri Vallabhbhai Patel, Smt Sarojini Naidu, Sri Rajendra Prasad, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Sri Sarat Chandra Bose, Sri Rajagopalachari, Sri Shankar Rao, Deo Smt Kamala Devi, Mr Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Sri Jai Prakash Narayan, Sri Pratap Singh, Sri Jugal Kishore.

Sri Shankar Rao Deo and Acharya Jugal Kishore will be General Secretaries, and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel will continue as Treasurer.

MALAVIYAJI—A TRIBUTE

By SRI K. BALASUBRAMANIAM Aiyar

AS one who had the good fortune to come under the spell of Malaviyaji's benign influence, I feel it my duty to pay my respectful tribute to his revered memory. His was a lovable personality. He moved with ease both among the young and the old. His fine, chiselled face, lit with a benignant smile, his spotless pure character, the round sandal mark on his forehead, his peculiar white head gear, his long white flowing angavastram wound round his neck, his sweet silvery voice of high pitch, his dignified bearing and courteous manner and cheerful countenance, his hearty gushing welcome with 'Aye'

repeated thrice, his scrupulous observance of the old-world habits of a pious Hindu, his intense spirituality, his elevating and contagious conversation bristling with quotations from our great classics and inspired with his high appreciation of the lofty ideals of our forefathers—all this will remain indelibly impressed in the memory of those who have seen him and come into contact with him. Indeed, his presence spread cheer all around. He observed the now out of date habit of making profound namaskar to elders, men or women, in the orthodox Hindu style. He would go to his bosom the young ones

of the family and enter into lively conversation with them. He never took allopathic medicines in his life. He had studied Ayurveda and believed profoundly in the efficacy of the indigenous medicines and insisted upon these being administered to him whenever he was ill. It is well known that he underwent *kayaakpa* treatment some years ago. This he did not on account of his desire for longevity but to his anxiety to give a chance to the Ayurveda practitioner to prove the efficacy of the treatment. He was a great orator both in Hindi and in English and what is rare among educated Hindus he spoke fluently in Sanskrit. He loved to engage himself in disputations and conversations with Pandits. He dreamed by day and by night of the solidarity of the Hindu community. He was therefore, a liberal Hindu in his outlook.

He yearned intensely for the restoration of the strength, discipline and organisation of the Hindus and longed for the day when the great Hindu community with its hoary civilisation of 5000 years will attain its pristine glory and prosperity in the land of its birth. Even a few days before his death, he appealed to the Hindus to shed their weakness and disunion and organise themselves. This was his last message to his countrymen—his swan song. His first public appearance in Madras was on the platform of the Indian National Congress of 1887. Then a young man of 23 his fine personality and voice made a great impression upon the critical Madras audience and the Madras ear ever afterwards loved to hear him. Perhaps, his greatest achievement for which he will ever be enshrined in the grateful memory of generations of Hindus is his founding and establishment of the Hindu University on the sacred soil of Benares where thousands of Hindu students will continue to be inculcated in the lofty ideals of their ancient culture in the blessed immediate presence and under the benign grace of Lord Visveswara. He dedicated himself for this sacred task and retired from active

practice in the Allahabad bar. I remember very well the spirited conversation that took place between him and my father about his decision to leave the legal profession. While admiring him for his great self-sacrifice my father suggested that the step he took might in the circumstances of the country then have the effect of lessening his influence with his countrymen. But Malaviyaji was unmoved and stuck to his resolve. He started life as a poor man, and died as a poor man, working to the last day of his life for the great task he had undertaken and accomplished. Many friends of his including my father thought at the time that the task was a stupendous one and beyond the capacity of a single individual. But Malaviyaji stood firm in his resolve to dare and do. He did accomplish it and by the year 1915 the Benares Hindu University Bill was introduced in the Assembly. He was greatly helped in the task by the magnanimity of Dr Besant who transferred the whole of the Central Hindu College to the University.

He had a persuasive manner which helped him a great deal in his begging expedition for crores of rupees for the great cause and he rarely met with disappointments. He cheerfully bore rebukes as incidental to the task of begging and had no ill will to the authors of such rebukes. In fact he shared with Mahatma Gandhi the honour of being the 'prince of beggars'.

He worked vigorously alike for the establishment of well-equipped technical colleges and of colleges of Oriental learning and theology. Just before his death he was anxiously working for the building of a great Hindu temple in the University premises which thanks to the munificent donation of Mr Jagul Kishore Birla will soon be accomplished. Alas! he is not alive to see it. Let us pray that we will prove worthy to inherit and continue the work of this veritable Rishi of modern times.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY AN INDIAN JOURNALIST

The London Conference

H. E. THE VICEROY LORD WAVELL accompanied by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Vice President of the Interim Government Mr M A Jinnah President of All India Muslim League, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Finance Member and Sardar Baldev Singh Defence Member, Interim Government with their personal staff left for London on December 1 on H M G's invitation Congress hesitated to accept the invitation to the London Conference lest it should prove a ruse to postpone the Constituent Assembly meeting on December 9 and the re-opening of the endless discussions on Constitutional issues once settled. Such postponement would have suited Mr Jinnah very well for it was exactly what he was out for.

Pandit Nehru in a message sent to the Viceroy on November 26 explained why he did not believe any useful purpose would be served by the proposed London talks. We are convinced he said

that our leaving India now would mean that at the instance of the League the Cabinet Mission's plan is going to be abandoned or substantially varied and that we are parties to it. It would mean giving in to the League's intransigence and incitement to violence and this would have disastrous consequences. The first thing to be certain about is that plans agreed to will be implemented and that there will be a continuity about policy.

The Congress however, reversed this decision on the Prime Minister's personal appeal and the assurance given to the Pandit that the agreed programme will be duly implemented according to schedule.

There is no intention of abandoning either decision of the Constituent Assembly to meet or the plan put forward by the Cabinet in a message on

said Prime Minister Attlee in a message to Pandit Nehru dated November 27 which forms part of the correspondence that passed between him and Pandit Nehru.

The object of our talks would be to try and ensure a successful meeting of the Constituent Assembly on December 9.

Mr Attlee added

Arrangements will be made to enable you to return by December 9.

It was on this definite and unequivocal assurance that the Congress and Sikh leaders accepted the invitation to the London Conference. Sardar Patel the Home member made this clear in his Bombay speech when he declared

Whether the heavens fall or the earth splits the Constituent Assembly shall meet on December 9 as decided. Come what may whether the delegates to the London Conference return or not before that date the Assembly shall proceed with its work on the scheduled date.

India South Africa Issue at the U N O

We congratulate Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit leader of the Indian delegation and her two colleagues Sir Maharaj Singh and Mr Justice Chagla on their splendid advocacy of the Indian cause and the success that has attended their efforts at the U N O Assembly. They won the first round when they had their case referred to the Joint Committee. And now, after a duel of wits with such a champion of repute as Field Marshal Smuts they have succeeded in scoring a majority of votes in their favour.

Before voting was taken, Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit, announced that the Delegation had decided to withdraw the Indian resolution in favour of the joint resolutions submitted by the Delegations of France and Mexico. It was a tactical move.

This resolution requested the Governments of South Africa and India to report at the next session of the General Assembly what measures had been adopted to effect a settlement of the dispute. The resolution declared that the General Assembly was of the opinion that the

treatment of Indians in the Union should be in conformity with international obligations under the agreements concluded between the two Governments and the relevant provisions of the Charter.

Mrs Pandit told the Committee

In view of the fact that we are not here in any vindictive spirit, that our sole object is to create conditions in the world by which not only peace might prevail and that the United Nations can function and reach their achievements we do not wish to place in the way of this Committee any difficulties in the matter of voting.

General Smuts, who had previously proposed that the legal aspect of the dispute be referred to the International Court of Justice, had suggested that the court should send an inquiry commission to South Africa.

The suggestion was vigorously opposed by Justice M C Chagla (India) who said that India would be prepared to consider the sending of a commission by the General Assembly but not by the court.

The resolution backed by France and Mexico was passed by the Assembly's Joint Political and Legal Committees by 24 votes to 19 with six abstentions.

Russia and France voted for the resolution. Britain and the United States voted against. This vote made voting on the other motion to send the matter to the International Court unnecessary and constituted a victory for the Indian Delegation.

Immediately after the voting, General Smuts, South African Prime Minister, and Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit, head of the Indian delegation who had withdrawn her own resolution in favour of the Franco Mexican proposal shook hands.

Commenting on the result of the vote Mrs Pandit said

We have scored a second victory. Not victory in the narrow sense of the term but victory in fundamental principles. We came here to vindicate before the United Nations the question of racial discrimination which may give the world a challenge of the next war. We are satisfied in the support we have received and I want to thank on behalf of my Government, all those nations who have upheld our claims. It is a happy augury for the world that at last the majority of world opinion has set its face against the deep rooted evil of racial discrimination.

Muslims in Minority Provinces

Mr Jinnah in his statement made a sweeping condemnation of atrocities in Muslim minority provinces and he referred in particular to the sufferings of his co-religionists in C P and Madras as well. Responsible authorities in either province have denied these allegations but this one from a Leaguer is significant.

Maulana Burhanullah, M L A, and President of the District Muslim League, contradicting the statement alleging maltreatment of Muslims at Jubbulpore, Katni and other places in the Central Provinces says

The communal relations in the district are most cordial and filial and should be followed throughout India.

He denies that the report was given by the local Muslim League to Mr Jinnah.

Lawlessness in East Bengal

Dr Syed Masud Ahmed, Secretary of the sub Divisional Muslim League, Begusarai, Monghyr District, has addressed a letter to Mr M A Jinnah calling on the latter to "do all in your power to stop the lawlessness in Bengal if you have the least care for protection of the Muslim community in the Bihar province"

The letter points out that the happenings in East Bengal have brought reprisal in the province of Bihar. Although Congressmen are doing their best to afford all possible protection to the Muslims, their voice does not count much with the masses. It says that the East Bengal happenings should be checked immediately if the Muslim population is to be saved from complete destruction. The letter also admits that there have been several instances where Hindus saved a large number of Muslims at great personal risk.

Dr Masud Ahmed in his letter also regrets that the recent public statement of Mr. Gaznafar Ali Khan

"has added fuel to the flames and thus is standing in the way of peace, since the Hindus after this statement say that the mass conversion in East Bengal was the organized official policy of the Muslim League"

The Bihar tragedy

We have no desire to rake up old controversies, and all who wish well of the country desire that bygones be bygones. But certain statements of the hot heads of the League have called forth a straight challenge even from members of the League itself. Thus Maulana Mohammad Akram Khan, President of the Bengal Provincial League joins issue with the Bengal Premier and says that he has a special duty towards Bihar at this juncture

For the tragedy of Bihar, the first responsibility lies on the Muslim League Government in Bengal, which is practically a personal show of Mr Suhrawardy.

It is therefore, his duty to be in touch with the sufferers in Bihar and share their distress, misfortune and ordeal.

Maulana Akram Khan continues that as soon as trouble started in Noakhali, Mr. Suhrawardy and his Government issued some statements which

"directly or indirectly, helped the ill designs of the party that was bent upon trouble. Not only that, by a fiat, the Bengal Chief Minister succeeded on the one hand in gagging one section of the Press and on the other hand, gave liberty to the other section to indulge in the publication of false and grossly exaggerated news under official sanction. This went on for a month, unchecked and unabated.

The Bihar tragedy, says Maulana Akram Khan, is the direct result of this "notorious propaganda of imaginary atrocities that was carried on under the very nose of Mr Suhrawardy's Government. The sufferings in Bihar to-day are due to the shortcomings and short sightedness of the Muslim League Government of Bengal".

Mr Jinnah's Directive to League Members

The correspondence between Pandit Nehru and Lord Wavell released by the Pandit on the eve of his departure to London throws a flood of lurid light on the intriguing situation that has been created by Mr Jinnah's directive to the League members of the Constituent Assembly to abstain from attending the meetings of that body due to commence on December 9. As a participant in the Interim Government the Muslim League has no right to boycott the Constituent Assembly. During the five months' protracted negotiations, the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy spared no pains to impress on political India that it was only by the acceptance of the long-term plan of the Constituent Assembly that any political party could qualify itself for inclusion in the Interim Government. "The basis for participation in the Cab-

net', Lord Wavell clearly wrote to Mr Jinnah on Oct 4 'is of course acceptance of the statement of May 16'. There was no ambiguity, no equivocation in that statement. In fact whatever Mr Jinnah might or might not have told Lord Wavell in course of the negotiations that followed we now have it on the authority of Lord Wavell himself (as is clear from the Viceroy's letter to Pandit Nehru of October 23) that Mr Jinnah actually "assured the Viceroy that the Muslim League will come into the Interim Government and the Constituent Assembly with the intention of co-operating. It is clear that Mr Jinnah's latest directive to the League members to boycott the Constituent Assembly, is a flagrant violation of the assurance he gave the Viceroy prior to the admission of the League members into the Interim Government."

It is said that Lord Wavell in dealing with Mr Jinnah should have taken the precaution of insisting on a written undertaking from the leader of the great Muslim party!

Exchange of Population

While Congress leaders and Gandhiji in particular are working to restore good will and amity among Hindus and Muslims in the riot affected areas Mr Jinnah suggests a novel remedy—a Pakistan patent.

His remedy is exchange of population—a proposal which is evidently a counsel of despair. It is on a par with that other absurd suggestion of Dr Ambedkar—change of religion for the Harijans. We do not know what religion the learned Doctor professes but

it is certain he has scant regard for it, as it is so easy for him to throw it off—as one does a shirt—for another. Nor will the religion of his adoption be proud of such a convert.

This exchange of population business is impossible in a country like India where for generations, a mixed population has lived in peace and amity. Hitler tried the experiment in Europe with disastrous results. In our own country, history tells us that a Muslim ruler of the 14th century—Muhammad Taghlak—changed his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad in 1327 and ordered the people to migrate with what consequences it is needless to repeat. It was a foolish act and he made it all the more tragic by ordering the people back to Delhi! We hope our generation has better sense than to imitate Muhammad Taghlak.

Sardar Jogendra Singh

The passing of Sir Jogendra Singh at the age of 70 removes a picturesque personality who has played a distinguished part in the politics of the Punjab as well as in all India politics. For apart from his services to his Province as Minister for Agriculture he was for a time member of the Viceroy's Executive Council in charge of Education, Health and Lands. Sir Jogendra was a scholar with a profound interest in letters. He took charge of *East and West* soon after Malabar's death, and he was a writer of some distinction. Above all he was a good and kindly person whose death will be widely mourned by his many friends, young and old.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Gen. Chiang to retire

When presenting a revised draft Constitution to the National Assembly in Nanking, on November 28 Gen Chiang Kai Shek, who has guided China's destinies for the past 25 years, hinted that the occasion marked the twilight of his political career.

Addressing more than 1,000 delegates, the Generalissimo said:

The presentation of the draft Constitution to the National Assembly marks the end of the responsibility of the National Government and the beginning of a Government by the people.

Now that the National Assembly had taken over responsibility, he considered his political career at an end.

'I am 60 years old now' he said! 'In the past 21 years since Sun Yat Sen's death I have been entrusted with the responsibility of Government. Now that the National Assembly has taken over I have no more ambitions.'

The Generalissimo handed the draft Constitution to D Hu-Shih, Chancellor of the Peiping National University and former Chinese Ambassador to the United States who presided.

French Elections

The results of the first general election in France go to prove that the inauguration for the Fourth Republic has not resolved the basic social and political conflict. The Left and the Right are fairly equally divided and, according to an observer, it looks as if the wrangle over constitutional provisions which was carried on for over twelve months, will now extend to the political field. It may be said that the people have shown their disgust over the political stalemate by their apathy in the elections. Eight millions of them abstained from the referendum held last month and nearly five millions did not vote this time. The most noteworthy development in the elections is the decline of the Socialist Party.

The Anglo Egyptian Treaty

The Wafd Party led by the 70 years old ex Premier, Nahas Pasha, which claims the largest following of all Egypt's political parties has decided to call a general strike, at a date to be fixed very shortly, throughout the country as a protest against the proposed signing of the new Anglo Egyptian treaty based on the Sidky Bevin draft.

The Wafd executive also decided to protest to the United Nations against the proposed treaty, which it described as having been "drawn up under pressure by Britain", and to launch a passive resistance campaign against the Sidky Pasha Government or any other Government willing to sign the treaty.

Wafd leaders are to go to the provinces to organise a campaign.

Draft Constitution for Germany

A draft of the "constitution for a German democratic republic" adopted at an extraordinary meeting of the Socialist Unity Party executive was published recently in the organ of the party, *Neue Deutschland*. The proposed constitution consists of 109 articles.

The draft defines future Germany as a democratic republic formed of States (Länder) where all authority would be exercised by the people through elected administrations. There would be only one form of citizenship with equal rights and obligations for all and the public service would be open to all citizens according to their abilities.

United States of Indonesia

The Dutch Government recognised the Indonesian Republican Government, as 'de facto' exercising power in Java, Madura and Sumatra" under the draft Agreement reached between the Dutch and Indonesian delegates at a recent meeting in Batavia.

A United States of Indonesia comprising the entire territory of the Dutch East Indies is to be formed as a "sovereign State on a federal basis."



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

TRANSFORMATION OF SIKHISM—by Sir Gokul Chand Narang—Second Edition Revised and enlarged New Book Society Publishers, Lahore Price Rs 6 4 0

The first edition of this book appeared in 1912. It gave a complete history of the Sikhs from the times of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism to the rise of Ranjit Singh.

In the second edition before us he has completed the picture by giving a short sketch of 'the Lion of the Punjab' and the developments that took place after his death and has brought his interesting narrative up to the declaration of the Second Great War. The first edition of the book was an approved text book for the M A course in history in the Punjab and Calcutta Universities. We are sure that the additions made in the present edition—especially the Recent Developments in the history of the Sikhs—will enhance the value of the book and make it more popular not only with the University students but also with the general reader, who wants to have a brief but comprehensive survey of the followers of a religion which is a powerful member of that great League of Religions called Hinduism. It is noteworthy that one of the recent developments is that the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee formally declared that the Sikhs were not Hindus though Sir Gokhul Chand points out in this book that 57 per cent of the authors of the Granth Sahib worshipped by the Sikhs were 'Hindus by faith as well as birth'.

KASHMIR PAST AND PRESENT, PART 1
5000 B C TO 1846 A D By Gwasha Lal BA The Chronicle Publishing House Srinagar, Kashmir, Price Rs 5

As an historical account of the period under review, the book is a welcome publication, documented by copious quotations from various authorities.

60 TYPE DESIGNS FOR YOUR NEW HOME
By M H Engineer The Cement Marketing Co of India, Bombay Price Rs Two

This is the title of a new publication produced lavishly in colour by the Cement Marketing Co of India, Ltd, Bombay. It gives a mine of useful information to the intending builder just at an opportune moment.

Based on the principle that a home does not merely consist of four walls and a roof but is essentially 'man made environment for human living'—a principle very well outlined in the Introduction to the book—the publication aims at demonstrating that homes for India should be based on the harmonious relationship of the three primary qualities of utility, structure and aesthetics. Admirably produced on art paper, it displays by means of 60 beautifully coloured illustrations and with relative plans a variety of ideas for good homes ranging from the humble abodes of the working man and the villager, to the residences of the wealthier upper classes of society.

UPADESH By Sri Sadguru Omkar Bangalore Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, Bangalore City

Many of these *upadeshs* as the author, reminds us were orally delivered to *sishyas* over a period of years and preserved in the form of notes. The style, and the shape given to the discourses fully bear this out. A few, we are told, were extracted from letters while the last pages were specially written to include the subject of *Sadhana* which is usually taught in person. The author hopes that these stray thoughts would contribute 'to world progress and serve to unite and uplift mankind. The initiated would no doubt benefit by these exhortations but to the uninitiated the *upadesh* in English garb may not be much inspiring.

PAKISTAN LITERATURE SERIES No 8
The future development of Islamic Polity. By Dr Ishmael Hussain Qureshi, M A Ph D, (Cantab) Ashraf Publication, Lahore

In this small book, the author calls for the regeneration of the Islamic Society and pleads for the healthy growth of a Society based mainly on Islamic ideals. He wants one and all of the Muslim India to fight the disintegration of the great ideals of Islam. According to the author 'the end of an Islamic polity should be to bring about Revolution in Society and environment to make this possible. He fervently pleads for the building up of such a society on sound Islamic notions

ALL ABOUT THE NATIONAL FLAG By U U Bhat National Youth Publication, Bombay Price As 6

This small booklet gives a happy account of the origin and history of the National Flag of India at the sight of which every Indian heart throbs with pleasure. Here we get the information, how Gandhiji first got the idea from Lala Hansraj of Jullunder, to introduce the Spinning wheel into the flag and we also come to know how the three colours namely, Red, Green and White, represent Hindu Muslim and other communities. The book deals all about the National Flag in a very lucid manner

BOOKS RECEIVED

(O)

THOUGHTS OF POWER By Swami Vivekananda Advaita Ashrama Almora

INDIAN HORIZON A miscellany for Indian youth to entertain encourage and enlighten By "Tayab Thacker & Co Ltd, Bombay

CALL THE NEXT WITNESS By Philip Woodruff (Jonathan Cape Ltd) Thacker & Co Ltd, Bombay

AROKA World's greatest Emperor By Bhikkhu Metteyya, Maha Bodhi Society Colombo

CABINET MISSION IN INDIA By Dewan Ram Furkash Tagore Memorial Publications Lahore

THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ISLAMIC POLITY By Dr Ishmael Hussain Qureshi M A Ashraf Publication Lahore

MUSLIM EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS By Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan (address to All India Muslim Educational conference) Ashraf Publication Lahore

INDIA'S PROLEGATION Fact & Policy By S Chandra Sekhar With Introduction by Warren S Thompson The John Day Company, New York

WITHIN INDUSTRIAL INDIA By V N Godbole, Principal College of Technology Hindu University, Benares

ROSENTHAL FACT Peace Banner The Red Cross of Culture New world Library Printed at the I M H Press Delhi Re 1

THE SILVER PALM By G P Hall Thacker & Co Ltd, Bombay Rs - 8

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES By "Villager" Twentieth Century Publication Kadamtan Patna
RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE OF LOUVREIL Second Report on Reconstruction Planning Manager of Publications, Delhi

SHRIMACHARITAM By Mahamahopadhyaya S Nila Kantia Sastri H H Maharaja's Sanskrit College Tiruvandrum

TEA INDUSTRY IN THE PUNJAB With special reference to labour problems By Gurdittchand M A Ramakrishna & Sons Lahore Rs 2

BUSINESS BUILDER A new Exposition of the Science of Business that puts business above the vagaries of chance By K M Banerjee With introduction by Minal Kanti Bose M A B L Industry Publishers Ltd, Shambazar, Calcutta Rs 4

THEY CHALLENGE ATTENTION The Jai Hind Publications Patna

U S FOREIGN POLICY By Walter Lippmann Thacker & Co Bombay

CONSOLIDATING BANKING LAW By K T Shah
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE By Mahesh Chand M A

WHAT IS WRONG WITH INDIAN ECONOMIC LIFE By Dr V K R V Rad Ph D Vora & Co, Publishers Ltd, Kalbadevi Rd, Bombay 9 12

REFLECTIONS ON ASSAM CUM PAKISTAN With a Foreword by Sri Gopinath Bardoli M A B L By Harindranath Barua M L Ujain Bazar, Gauhati
A BOOK OF MAXIMS With questions Part I compiled by K R Vijapurkar

THE INLAND LOTTERY BOOK By V R Vijapurkar Rainavilasam Press 37 Erulappan St Madras

CHANGING IMPACTS IN SOVIET RUSSIA By K T Shah
POST WAR EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION By Hansa Mehta Prabhu Publications Sir P M Road Bombay

RELIGION AND MODERN DOUBTS By Swami Nirvedananda Vidyamandira Dhakura Model Publishing House 2 A, Suamacharao D Street, Calcutta

DIARY OF THE MONTH

— 0 —

- Nov 1 S A Indian issue included in U N A agenda
—Nehru Patel Liaquat and Nishtar leave Calcutta
- Nov 2 New Jap Constitution set up to day
—Documents re S A Indian struggle flown from Delhi to UNO
- Nov 3 Joint statement by Nehru Patel Liaquat and Nishtar appealing for cessation of violence in Bengal and Bihar
- Nov 4 Madras Government decide to levy tax on agricultural incomes
- Nov 5 Gandhiji decides to go on fast if riots continue
—Sir P S Sivaiah Aiyer passes away
- Nov 6 Gandhiji leaves for Noakhali
—Nehru Prasad and Kripalani appeal to Beharees to end violence
- Nov 7 Republican triumph in U S elections
- Nov 8 New India Government Loan floated
—Debate in Central Assembly on nationalisation of Civil Aviation
- Nov 9 Mr Jinnah explains League's position in the Interim Government
- Nov 10 Chiang issues cease fire order in China
- Nov 11 Sir G S Bajpai appointed Interim Charge d'affaires in the new Indian Embassy in Washington
- Nov 12 Death of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya
—King in his speech from Throne endorses Cabinet Mission's policy
- Nov 13 Sardar Patel threatens drastic censorship of press reports
—C P Leaguer contradicts Mr Jinnah's statement
- Nov 14 Pandit Nehru makes a statement in the Central Assembly on the riots
- Nov 15 C R replies to Smuts' taunt against India
—Dr Deshmukh's bill in the Central Assembly
- Nov 16 H C H The Nizam appeals for cessation of communal strife
—India Government replies to Gen Smuts' memorandum
- Nov 17 Agreement published re United States of Indonesia
- Nov 18 Expenses for Constituent Assembly approved in Central Assembly
—Patel's Bill to root out bribery and corruption introduced in Assembly
- Nov 19 Mr Jinnah seeks Viceroy's intervention in Bihar
- Nov 20 Gandhiji's plan for rehabilitating refugees outlined
—Invitations issued to members of Congress meeting on 9th December
- Nov 21 Wavell Jinnah correspondence released
—Death of Sir Robert Denniston a Madras businessman and sportsman is reported
- Nov 22 Pandit Nehru speaking at Congress Subjects Committee indicts Viceroy's handling of the Interim Government
- Nov 23 Congress Session opens at Meerut Acharya Kripalani presiding
- Nov 24 Meerut Session of Congress concludes
—Wavell Nehru letters released
- Nov 25 Mr Jinnah at a Press Conference in Karachi pleads for exchange of population
- Nov 26 British Cabinet invites Wavell and representatives of Congress League and Sikhs
- Nov 27 Congress and Sikh leaders decline invitation to London Conference
- Nov 28 Mr Attlee, personally invites Congress leaders to London Congress reverses decision on Attlee's assurance
- Nov 29 Deadlock in U N O over voting on India's case
- Nov 30 Attlee Nehru cable letters released Viceroy and the Indian leaders leave for London



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE SWISS EXECUTIVE AS MODEL FOR INDIA

Mr M. Ruthnaswamy, Vice Chancellor of the Annamalai University, writing in the *New Review* for November, points to the Swiss Executive as a model for India.

The Federal Executive called the Federal Council in Switzerland comes into existence by election by the two chambers of the Federal Legislature in a joint session. They are seven in number and elected for three years.

Anyone eligible for the Federal Legislatures, and he need not be a member of the Legislature, is eligible for the Federal Council, but not more than one from a canton. By convention members are chosen from each of the linguistic and political sections of the Assembly and of the country. At the beginning it was not always so. The Catholic Right had been excluded from the Federal Council till the beginning of the 20th century in spite of its commanding a large number in the Legislature. This anti-catholic prejudice has in recent years been compensated for by the election of M. Motta continuously for a period of 30 years and 5 times as President. In 1833 there were 3 members of one particular party, the Liberal party though it was a small group in the legislature the radical majority looked for its chance to retirement or the death of a member. But the party and religious prejudices that prevailed once are things of the past. The greater Cantons, Berne, Zurich, Vaud always have one member, the German cantons have more than one.

The Swiss Federal Executive is created by law and organized by the law of the constitution unlike the British Cabinet whose position and power are not defined in any constitutional law. It is not the nominee of a King, a President or Prime Minister. The Swiss Executive is a law-made and law-bound executive.

This Executive sets about its work also in a manner of its own. It is not a homogeneous body like the British Cabinet. Different political ideas and parties are represented in it as in a legislature. Ministers sometimes oppose each other in public. But it works as a collegial Executive.

Not the principle of collective responsibility but the principle of collegial activity is the motto of the work of the Swiss Executive. As M. Motta, long a member of the Federal Council and often its President, said in a speech in the National Assembly on 24th June 1927, 'the principle of collegiality of deliberation in important affairs and especially in regard to foreign affairs is fundamental in our public law and is strictly observed'. There is no hierarchy among the members—even the President is only *primus inter pares*—he lasts only a year although eligible for re-election and some Presidents as a matter of fact have held office as many as four or five times.

The Swiss Federal Ministry performs two functions generally separated. It performs the government function of determining policy and the administrative function of executing policy which under other systems is the business of permanent departmental heads. 'Politics and administration', says M. Motta, 'form an inseparable whole'.

It meets twice a week or more frequently according to circumstances. Four are required to make a quorum, the attendance of members is compulsory, decisions are by absolute majority. All decisions small or great are in theory taken in council but in practice only important questions come up before it and are decided in Council. The Ministers are subject to civil and criminal responsibility for their individual acts.

The actual working of the Federal Council is thus described by M. Motta who speaks from actual experience of nearly 25 years as member of the Federal Council.

'The work of the Bundesrat is a hard school. Here come seven men together who are to advise each other and work with each other for many years. Their temperaments, their origin, their speech are different, even in their outlook (Weltanschauung) on the world they may look away from each other. About their politics and administrative policy play all kinds of influences. The welfare of the country depends on the between them is extreme love of country and a strong will to agree. Of these Hoffman (one of M. Motta's colleagues) was a master. He had renounced completely his party allegiance. He had washed religious, political and social peaces.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The biggest single industry in India, next only to agriculture in its importance, is the handloom industry which produces nearly 1600 million yards or 25·30 per cent of the total cloth consumed and employs over 2 500 000 workers. Hand weaving is the sole occupation of most of these workers and the mainstay of many towns and villages in the country. If for any reason the industry collapses the resultant misery is bound to be serious. The social advantages of the employment of a large number of people under conditions far different from those of a factory are such as cannot be ignored. These facts are brought out by Mr M P Gandhi in an article in the current issue of the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*.

Basing his information on the Report of the Fact Finding Committee, published by the Government of India in 1942, Mr Gandhi computes that there are about 2 000 000 handlooms in the country, of which 1 400 000 were engaged in cotton (72 per cent) 371,000 in silk (16 per cent) 25 000 in artificial silk (1 per cent) 99 000 in wool (5 per cent) and 100,000 looms in other textile mixtures (6 per cent). Sixty four per cent of the looms are throw shuttle looms, 35 per cent fly shuttle, and over 11 600 small power-looms. In 1941 the industry consumed 360 million lbs of cotton yarn of which 78 per cent was made in Indian mills, 70 per cent imported and 14 per cent handspun. 54·4 per cent of the yarn consumed was below 20 counts, 33·8 per cent between 20 and 40 and 11·8 per

cent over 40. Handloom weaving specialises in the production of coloured and multi coloured cloth, cloth interwoven with gold and silver threads, cloth with embellished borders, short pieces of unique design, rough cloth of low counts and very fine cloth. The principal types are sarees and other women's clothing, men's apparel like dhoties, lungis and chaddars, cloth for domestic use, such as towels, carpets and curtain cloth and long cloth. Ninety five per cent of the production in Bombay, seventy five per cent in the C P, 44 per cent in Madras and 40 per cent in Bengal consist of sarees.

Handloom goods form about 25 to 33 per cent of the total piecegoods exported from India. The principal countries of destination are Burma, Malaya, Ceylon and Siam where there are Indian settlers. The bulk of the exports is from Madras.

One of the chief handicaps of the industry in the present time is the lack of supply of suitable quantity of hand spun yarn, which throws the industry at the mercy of the mills. The weaver has to pay an inflated price for his yarn on account of middlemen's charges and is exploited by the cloth dealer when selling his cloth. Lack of standardisation and concessional railway rates add to his difficulties. Direct competition from the mills, especially in saris and dhoties, has proved injurious to the industry. In spite of all this, the industry can hold its own if it is given the little aid it asks, for such as an uninterrupted supply of yarn at fair prices, an efficient organisation for marketing the products, exemption from taxes and tolls and publicity, both inside and outside the country, for the superior qualities of handloom cloth.

BENGAL RIOTS AND THE CONGRESS

Bengal today is witnessing the fruition of the fiendish plans of British Tory Officialdom allied with the Muslim reactionaries, says *The Modern Review*, commenting on the tragic happenings at Calcutta and Noakhali. During the course of the last twenty years almost every vantage point in the Executive, Police and Control organisations of Bengal had been filled by them with reactionary Muslim officials whose main qualification is their allegiance to the Muslim League. Strongly entrenched on all sides in this fashion and fortified with the British gift of absolute majority in the Bengal Assembly, the League has had no hindrance in letting hell loose in Bengal. Calcutta went through it in August, and the position today is as critical, from the point of view of public confidence, as it was a month back.

The Muslim League through its spokesmen like Messrs Nazimuddin, Suhrawardy and Ghaznafar Ali, has been openly holding out threats that civil war on a still larger scale will break out if their blackmail demands be not fulfilled. But we hope this will not deter the Congress from resolutely proceeding on the path to complete independence. Bengal has passed through forty years of official repression and savage communal oppression. She has survived with hardly any help or even sympathy from the sister provinces, indeed on the contrary. If necessary, Bengal must make her own way through hell so that, the rest of India may live in freedom and in safety. The Congress must be prepared for the worst, that is civil war, and hope for the best in the shape of the return of sanity to the League.

CONGRESS AND COMMUNISTS

It is difficult to fathom the reason behind some of the actions of the communists of India, writes Mr K Natarajan in *Swatantra*. There is considerable sympathy for their economic programme but in the political world their history is 'a sorry tale of wrong anticipation, misjudgment and a quickened susceptibility to blame others'. Mr Natarajan discusses their many acts of political indiscretion and their inconsistencies and finally draws attention to the many strikes which have been a disastrous feature of their activity.

If strikes were unholy at the time of war, they are more so now when living conditions are worse. If production of war materials was a necessity for winning the war, production of foodstuffs and clothing materials is a greater necessity now for covering the people and keeping them alive. How then, can the Communists actually encourage strikes? Fight by all means for better wages but to resort to direct action which will worsen the already deplorable condition of the general public is ill advised and the party which encourages it is not doing patriotic service.

There is so much common ground between the Communists and the Congress that it is a great pity that there should be a rift between the two, that one should feel antagonistic to the other.

Bettering the condition of the labouring class; levelling the distinction between classes and masses; spreading the light of education into the myriad homes of dark ignorance; fighting the evils of black marketing capitalism and the monopolistic tendency forcing prices up; rooting out destitution, hunger and cold and nakedness, removing untouchability and caste distinctions, giving every man the wherewithal to live, to leisure and opportunity to better himself,—these are objects for which both are working. National independence is the goal for both. What matters it if there are some among the Congressmen whose activities go counter to the ideals of the great organisation? These should be ignored and not made much of. The Communist Party is young in age and should recognise that the Congress has attained its present stature after years of toil and tears. If only they will rid themselves of the obsessions on that theirs is the only right path to reach the destination if only they will pull alongside the Congress instead of apart, with their energy and earnestness, the day of deliverance will be brought nearer and the country will regain the glory of the past.

ELECTION HUMOUR

In the Special number of *Free India* Mr T L Edwin gives some very entertaining bits of Election humour

An incident, unfortunate to two journalists occurred through an accident to a Schedule Caste Federation candidate this year in Bombay. He was announced to speak at a distant part of his division and in order to spare the reporters a long journey, he supplied them with the manuscript of the speech he intended to deliver. "On the way out we are told, "a mishap occurred to his car and he was compelled because of the break down to take refuge in a choultry much against his inclinations. He was unable to complete the journey, and the speech was never delivered. It appeared in the morning papers, however, with 'Hear hear' 'Loud applause', and such exclamations as 'No, no', and 'We will freely introduced into a speech reported to have been delivered before a large audience."

An Andhre villager provided a deal of merriment in the recent Legislative Elections. After examining his ballot-paper he seemed a little puzzled and asked the presiding officer what he had to do with it. The latter gave the usual stock rules, and finished up by saying "You mark a cross against the candidate you wish to vote for."

"Oh," replied the elector, but the one I want to vote for isn't down here, I want to vote for Mahatma Gandhi."

"But you can't vote for Mahatma Gandhi because he is not a candidate," returned the presiding officer

"Can't vote for Mahatma Gandhi, can't I? I can't vote for one whom I like. If I can't vote for Mahatma Gandhi, I won't vote for anybody," and he didn't

* * *

Not a little excitement and no less amusement were reported to have been caused in a well known Bombay division by a local politician parading the streets, with a large lighted lantern in broad daylight. On being asked his business, he replied that he was looking for the Mahasabha party. That division being a predominantly Congress one a facetious gent remarked that he would have to continue his search to the North Pole, as all near polls were quite the other way."

* * *

A story is told, on reliable authority, of a candidate in a North English Constituency who was more famed for his social than his political qualities. One day he called at an Inn, where were assembled a number of persons with whom he had slight acquaintance and who possessed votes

"I can't treat you," he said, "as it might be termed bribery, but I'll entertain you," and clearing a corner of the room he stood upon his head. Shillings dozens of them rolled from his pockets to the floor, where he left the coins, and assuming an upright position, he walked away. The money was gathered up by the men in the Inn and spent in liquor. Needless to say they all voted for the candidate who 'entertained' em."

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

H E H THE NIZAMS APPEAL

His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad has issued an appeal to the people of India urging them to stop the fratricidal strife in the country. The following is the full text of the appeal.

"As one occupying the position I do, I deem it my duty at this critical time in our history to address a few words to my countrymen and specially to those of them who live in the north where a gruesome tragedy is being enacted. Whatever our religious or political differences, this tragedy fills each one of us with horror and dismay. Those who are involved in this senseless fratricidal strife forget that they are fellow citizens of a great and ancient land—a land which has before it a great and glorious future. They forget that no community can do harm to another without doing permanent injury both to itself and to India as a whole.

"At this supreme crisis in India's history the duty of every patriotic citizen is plainly to strive his utmost to spare India this cruel suffering, to divert her from this suicidal course and to save her from ignominy in her own eyes and in the eyes of the world."

HYDERABAD STATE CONGRESS

The contemplated "direct action" by the Hyderabad State Congress to secure reforms leading to the establishment of Responsible Government in the state has been postponed *sine die*.

A decision to this effect has been taken by the Working Committee of the State Congress at a meeting, announces Swami Ramnad Thirthi, President of the State Congress, in a statement. He says that this step has been taken in view of the communal situation in India and in view of the advice given by the leaders of the All India State People's Conference.

Mysore

NEW CONSTITUTION FOR MYSORE

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Dewan of Mysore, replying to an address presented by the Veerasaiva community at Bangalore referred to the aspiration of the public for a suitable constitution for Mysore. Paralleling, he said, was a very dangerous principle. It was necessary for them to understand the political changes taking place elsewhere in India in their proper perspective. They must beware of blind imitations which might not take them far in their aspirations when conditions were dissimilar. The constitution that should be evolved for Mysore should suit the genius of its people. Sir Ramaswami felt that when British India's constitution was evolved, it would be vitally different from the existing patterns in the Provinces and the Centre.

He thought that it was not wise to dig the historical past of the various communities as it did not do any good either to the community or the country as a whole. It was not the path of wisdom for any sincere patriot to recall the great past of any community with a militant attitude. Those who propagated anarchy or a militant state of society did no service to the country.

MYSORE DEWANS ASSURANCE

Problems of major importance to Mysore—retrocession of the Bangalore Civil and Military Station to the Mysore durbār, Bhatkal harbour, extension of the Mysore railways, and democratisation of the administration—were touched upon by Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Dewan of Mysore while replying to a representative reception by Bangalore citizens.

The Dewan declared that in a few months they would see the Bangalore Cantonment retroceded to the Mysore durbār.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE DEWAN'S APPEAL

'Slogans may be valuable at a certain stage and in particular circumstances for the purpose of keeping up the enthusiasm of the people or for directing effort on particular lines. But those of us who are aware of the fundamental idea of tolerance should give those slogans their proper place. They are good servants but bad masters,' observed Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, addressing a meeting of the Rotary Club, Bangalore.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said that the slogan 'Go Back Simon' was apposite in the year 1928 but there was no meaning in crying 'Go back to Delhi' during Pandit Nehru's recent visit to the Frontier Province. Again the slogan of 'Khadi' was appropriate when there was a deliberate attempt on the part of Britishers in India to adopt tariff and other economic policies so as to make it easy for Lancashire to kill the textile industry in India. The economic uplift of India needed such slogans. But now when they in India tried to industrialise the country and there was no question of competition from Lancashire at this juncture to start the cry, 'Close all your mills' seemed a slogan which was rather inappropriate.

SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND DUMB

His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore has made a handsome donation of rupees one lakh for the establishment of a school for the deaf, dumb and blind. The Government of Travancore have decided to sanction an equal amount and have earmarked a five-acre plot for the school.

A detailed scheme for the establishment of the school has been prepared with the help of experts and the Director of Public Instruction has been asked to prepare the necessary plans and estimates.

Baroda

SIR B. L. MITTER ON STATES

Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, said in an interview to the Associated Press of India at Bombay that he was in entire agreement with the views of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, regarding participation by Indian States in the internal controversies of British India. He stressed the need for Indian States to crystallise their own ideas before the commencement of negotiation with British India.

The Dewan of Baroda said 'I entirely agree with Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in his recent statement and I share his apprehensions. The aim of the States is to find an honourable place in the Map of Free India. Participation by the States in the internal controversies of British India will not only retard the advent of freedom, but will add to the complexities of their own relations with British India. Such participation is likely to divide the States into different schools of thought and thereby weaken the order as a whole.'

'What is wanted, Sir Brojendra Lal said, is team work. Individual or sectional interests must be subordinated to the larger interests of the whole. It should be realised that the problems between British India and the States are of greater complexity than the problems of British India itself. The States should lose no time in crystallising their own ideas before negotiation with British India begins. Let not these ideas be coloured by British Indian controversies.'

Bhopal

BHOPAL LOAN

The Bhopal Government's three per cent loan 1966 which opened on November 12 was closed on November 14 after it had been fully subscribed. The loan totalling two and half crores of rupees will be used only for capital expenditure on the Bhopal's postwar development schemes.

Kashmir**CHINA RICE IN KASHMIR**

Initial experiments on the cultivation of China Rice in the Kashmir Valley have been completed by the Agriculture Department of Kashmir State, and have shown good results. The demand for this rice is now growing in the State.

The State Agriculture Department is also giving practical demonstrations in the use of artificial manures for vegetables.

FOOD GRAINS ORDER

An Ordinance issued by the Kashmir Government empowers the Grain License Inspectors to impose fine on any person contravening the Food Grains Control Order.

Gwalior**FOOD CONTROL IN GWALIOR**

The Central Food Advisory Committee appointed by the Gwalior Legislature, has suggested the establishment of district food committees consisting of officials and non-officials to help in the distribution of controlled food supplies in the States. The committees will also advise the Department of Food Supplies on matters of fixation of prices, available surpluses, import and export and the procurement of supplies.

GWALIOR EXHIBITION

The Gwalior Annual Fair and Industrial Exhibition will be held from December 15, 1946 to January 10 1947. An Exhibition of products of local industries and a Cattle Exhibition will also be held at the same time.

Bikaner**MEDICAL TRAINING IN BIKANER**

The Prince Bijay Singhji Memorial General Hospital maintained by the Bikaner Government has been recognised for enrolling medical graduates for surgical training preliminary to the Fellowship Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons, England. The period of training will not be less than six months.

Indore**ADULT EDUCATION IN INDORE**

The Indore Central Rural Uplift Board has recommended to the State Government to introduce adult education and organise village sanitation in the State.

In pursuance of these recommendations, the Government is planning to open a rural uplift training school soon.

Bundi**DR SAKSENA THE NEW PREMIER**

Dr R S Saksena the new Prime Minister of Bundi presiding over the annual function of the Patan Town school, said that his policy would be to serve the common man and to promote his welfare and advancement.

Dr Saksena disclosed that the Patan Municipality would soon be extended and granted all privileges enjoyed by City Municipalities. He also hoped that Patan school be raised to a High school.

Kotah**HON SAPRU AS CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISER**

The Honble Mr P N Sapru, Member, Council of State has been selected by the Kotah Government to advise the Ruler on the question of constitutional reforms suitable for introduction in the Kotah State. The Ruler of Kotah has also constituted a Committee of eight to assist Mr Sapru in drawing up a constitution for the State. The Committee will start work immediately.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

INDIA'S REPLY TO SOUTH AFRICA

Calling the developments in South Africa as 'dictatorship of a racial group' a new booklet has been issued by the Government of India, replying to the charges made in a booklet and a memorandum issued earlier by the South African Government

The Indian booklet says 'The war was not fought to replace individual dictatorship by racial dictatorship and the point at issue before the General Assembly is whether it can allow a member State which is a signatory to the Charter to make dictatorship by a racial group the basis of its national policy

The statement adds Segregation is no solution to a problem which the Union of South Africa set themselves to solve. It has been disapproved by South African statesmen of the stature of F M Smuts and Mr Hofmeyr. The statement continues

The Indian Government claim that the policy of segregation and restriction of the right of ownership and occupation of property merely on the ground of race is a flagrant violation of the principles and purposes of the UNO Charter. The point is that such prejudices have been given the sanctity of legislation and elevated to the status of Governmental policy. Indeed what is happening in South Africa amounts to dictatorship of a racial group.

S. W. Africa

TRUSTEESHIP FOR S W AFRICA

In the UNO Trusteeship Committee on November 14 India's delegate Sir Maharaj Singh threw a challenge to Gen Smuts' leader of the South African delegation. 'Let a Commission composed of two Europeans two Americans two Asiatics and two Africans from outside the Union visit South Africa and report on the conditions of Africans in the territory into which it is proposed to

incorporate South West Africa and hear their views regarding their treatment"

Sir Maharaj Singh in a bitter personal attack on Gen Smuts charged that South west Africans had suffered fifty years of "Fascist rule—German and South African"

Recalling Gen Smuts' attack on India for communal riots, Sir Maharaj admitted that they were "deplorable", but said that 'there have been far worse conflicts in ancient and medieval as well as modern Europe

He demanded 'that the territory of South west Africa be treated in the future not as an integral part of the Union of South Africa or as a Mandate, but be brought forthwith under the Trusteeship system in accordance with the principles of the United Nations"

Trinidad

AN APPEAL FROM TRINIDAD

Messrs Bickram Saugh Ramdath Saugh and Dipchan Saugh all of the Napanua College, Gasparillo San Fernando Trinidad, have addressed an appeal to boys and girls of India to send them such literature as they can lay their hands on. Cut off from the motherland they long for any literature that could put them in touch with the home country. In a communication to the Editor they write

"We are thousands of Indians domiciled in this island completely cut off from our motherland. Our grand parents who ventured on these shores just over one hundred years ago have left us in a precarious position. Devoid of our own language, custom and religion we cling slavishly to foreign dictates in so much that we are crudely Anglicised . . .

We long for your literature and your culture. We long for everything however trivial and unimportant they may appear to you. Proud we would be to own good pictures of Gandhi, Nehru, Azad and Bose'

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

PATEL'S PRESS COMMITTEE

A new code for adoption by news Agencies and newspapers in India in the supply and publication of reports of communal disturbances has been suggested by an *ad hoc* committee appointed at a conference of members of the Central Press Advisory Committee and editors of newspapers in Delhi convened by the Home Member, Sardar Vallabhai Patel

The Committee recommends that news of communal disturbances will continue to be received from the following sources

a The Central and the Provincial Governments or the local authorities

b The recognised news agencies,

c Newspapers own correspondents

In publishing news received from the above sources, editors should take steps to ensure that the following principles are observed

A That the presentation is factual and objective,

B That the communities of assailants or victims, or casualties in particular incidents are not indicated either directly or indirectly,

C That casualty figures are neither mentioned in headlines nor otherwise prominently featured

THE KING ON CABINET MISSIONS INDIA POLICY

"My Government will forward by every means at their disposal the policy with regard to the Government of India laid down in the statements made by them and by the Mission of my Ministers which recently visited India

His Majesty the King told the assembled Lords and Commoners in the Peers Chamber of Parliament

NATIONALISATION OF ARMY

The Government of India have appointed a Committee with Sir N Gopalaswami Iyengar as Chairman, to advise them as to the ways and means of nationalisation of the armed forces. The Committee consists of the following members

Chairman The Hon Sir N Gopalaswami Iyengar, Members The Hon Pandit Hridayanath Kunzru Mr Mohammad Ismail, Sardar Sampuran Singh, three senior Indian officers representing the three services and a senior officer of the British service of a rank not lower than Major General. The Secretary of the Committee will be a senior Indian Service Officer

An officer of the rank of a Major General, Commodore or Air Commodore will be present from the Indian Army, the Royal Indian Navy and the Royal Indian Air Force respectively to advise the Committee whenever questions concerning the army, navy or air force, as the case may be, are considered

The terms of reference are as under

In order to nationalise the armed forces of India, namely the Indian Navy, the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force and all auxiliary services both officers and men within the shortest possible time with due regard to Indian national interests and reasonable efficiency, to enquire and report within six months on:

(a) Ways and means within the minimum possible period of replacement of non Indian personnel by Indians in each branch or service

(b) The target date or dates for complete nationalisation for all or each category in the different services if possible

(c) Ways and means of retaining if necessary, non Indian personnel as advisers or experts in nationalised categories

(d) The enumeration of those departments categories or personnel where non Indian personnel can be replaced by Indians immediately

Utterances of the Day

MRS PANDIT'S WARNING

Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit speaking on Nov. 17 at a New York reception given by the "the India League of America" to Indian delegates to the United Nations General Assembly said

We regard the struggle of Indians in South Africa as a symbolic one. We look on what is happening in South Africa as a very grave challenge and unless the people who to-day are forming policies of the world realise how deep the current of hatred is this discrimination they will find will once again bring the world into a conflict greater than it has ever known.

The question should not be dealt with emotionally but in a manner which will peacefully solve the situation which has already sown seeds of very grave consequences. It threatens to envelop the whole human race if it is allowed to grow. We have to combine and do our very best to deal with it on a moral and political basis—on a basis that what is said in the Unity Charter must be implemented or it will amount to a mockery.

Mrs Pandit asserted that India could stand and hold up her head in spite of difficulties.

In spite of coercing India has retained her moral values and has never been detracted from moral issues. We are still far from independence in India but no large number of people in India to-day know that independence is not so much a political condition as a state of mind.

THE VICEROY'S BROADCAST APPEAL

His Excellency the Viceroy in a broadcast says—

I have only a few words to say to you but they come from the depths of my heart and of my conscience and they are on matters vital to India.

Firstly I want to impress on you that with the formation of a Coalition Government India has taken another great stride forward on the road to freedom. It is my desire and I hope that all elements in this Government shall work together in harmony both in dealing with the present pressing problems of India and in furthering the formation of a new constitution which will enable the British Government to complete the transfer of power to India.

But India cannot go forward to her high destiny and we cannot devote ourselves wholeheartedly

to the great work that lies ahead of us all, when our minds are filled with constant anxiety and apprehension. We desire as I am sure does every man of goodwill, that freedom from fear of communal strife should become general throughout the length and breadth of India.

I ask therefore, on my own behalf and on behalf of my Government, which wholeheartedly supports this appeal that the communal strife which now poisons the life and disfigures the fair name of India should cease.

Let us not look backwards to old hatreds and injuries and recriminations but forward to the prospect of a free, powerful and prosperous India.

SYUD HOSSAIN ON COMMUNAL AMITY

Dr Syud Hossain in a recent speech said, that the time has come when all the people living in India should think and act as Indians first and anything else afterwards. He said the accident of birth in a family following a particular religious persuasion should not prevent a person from behaving as a decent and respectable Indian.

Already the freedom of India has been delayed largely owing to the follies of our leaders. Let the past bury its dead. All of us should try from tomorrow on irrespective of any communal settlements that are pending to develop an absolutely new attitude towards our fellow beings.

If we enter the house of freedom on whose threshold we stand to-day, with mental reservation or a less of exclusiveness and separatism, we will not only be desecrating the sanctity of that house but we will also be dishonouring ourselves.

The speaker ridiculed those who, though they did not follow any of the duties their respective religious faiths enjoined on them, prided themselves on being Hindus or Muslims. To justifiably take that pride, they were required to be good Hindus or good Muslims. This they could do only by living up to the true principles of their ancestral faiths.

PANDIT NEHRU ON GOVERNORS

"We want to do away with Governors not to replace them with others of their type whatever their skin may be," said Pandit Nehru answering a question of Mr Ahmed Ibrahim Haroon Jaffar (Muslim League) in the Central Assembly on October 29

Mr Jaffar had asked whether the Government were aware of the general feeling in the country that for any future appointments of Governors Indians should be chosen instead of imposing foreigners on this country

Mr Sri Prakasa (Cong) There is great dissatisfaction at the existence of Governors themselves (hear, hear)

Pandit Nehru With the coming of independence there ceases to be any necessity for Governors (hear, hear)

BILL FOR PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION

In the Central Legislative Assembly, Sardar Vallabhai Patel Home Member, introduced a Bill on November 18 for the more effective prevention of bribery and corruption

The statement of objects and reasons of the Bill says

The scope for bribery and corruption of public servants had been enormously increased by war conditions and though the war is now over opportunities for corrupt practices will remain for a considerable time to come. Contracts are being terminated large amounts of Government surplus stores are being disposed of there will be for some years shortages of various kinds requiring the imposition of controls and extensive schemes of post war reconstruction involving the disbursement of very large sums of Government money, have been and are being elaborated. All these activities offer wide scope for corrupt practices and the seriousness of the evil and the possibility of its continuance or extension in the future are such as to justify immediate and drastic action to stamp it out. The existing law has proved inadequate for dealing with the problem which has arisen in recent years and the Bill is intended to render the Criminal Law more effective in dealing with cases of bribery and corruption of public servants

PANDIT KUNZRU'S IMPRESSIONS

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru, who recently returned from a tour of Noakhali and Tipperah districts says in a statement —

My enquires show that soon after the Calcutta riots a strong anti Hindu agitation was set on foot in the Noakhali district. At least one section of the Muslim League was responsible for the propaganda that was carried on against the Hindus and the other section is not known to have made any effort to counteract its mischievous activities. The leader of the aggressive section of the League prostituted Islam to inflame the religious feelings of the Muslims and drove them to attack their peaceful and defenceless Hindu neighbours in certain parts of the district. The Hindus repeatedly asked the District authorities to control the mischief makers but the apprehensions were regarded as groundless by the authorities who took no steps to give them the protection they needed

MR JINNAH'S OBSTRUCTION TO INDIAN FREEDOM

Mr M A Jinnah, President, All India Muslim League in an interview given to foreign press Correspondents on November 14, at Delhi said 'The Interim Government should not be allowed to do anything administratively or by convention which would in any way prejudice or militate against the problem of the future constitution of India and we shall certainly resist any attempt which directly or indirectly prejudices or militates against our demand of Pakistan'

He agreed with the suggestion that the Muslim League members of the Interim Government were 'Sentinels' who would watch Muslim interests and added that they would help 'in the day to day administration'. He made it clear that he did not approve of the present arrangements saying that "it is forced upon us"

"This Labour Government in Britain is blundering. It is living in a dreamland and pursuing mistaken policy, may be with the best of intentions"

Mr Jinnah said

Mr Jinnah declared that the only solution of the Indian problem was the division of British India into Pakistan and Hindustan whose constitution should be drawn up by two Constituent Assemblies.

Educational

SILVER JUBILEE OF JAMIA MILLIA

Speaking on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Jamia Millia at Delhi on Nov 17 its Vice Chancellor, Dr Zakir Hussain, made a brief survey of the Jamia's activities during the last 25 years and plans for its future development. The most significant aspect of this period he said was that the Jamia strictly adhered to the principle that it would not be subject to Government influence and that it owed no allegiance to any political party.

Dr Zakir Hussain made a moving appeal for communal unity. Turning to the political leaders who were seated on the dais he said: In the firmament of our political life you shine like stars. You live in the hearts of not thousands but millions. May I take advantage of your presence here to-day to say with great pain and suffering of heart a few words on behalf of those who are working for the cause of education? Considering the flames of mutual hatred that envelop this country to-day our attempt to adorn the cultural life of this land seems to be foolish and futile. These flames are destroying human dignity and civilization. How can we at the same time hope to create balanced personalities? How can we hope to nurture human values which have sunk lower than the level of animals and wild beasts? How can we save men's honour in a world of brutes? These seem hard words but I believe these are not hard enough in the present situation. In Heaven's name I beg you to get closer together and to extinguish these flames.

This is not the time to inquire who set the first spark or how. It is enough to know that the country is aflame. Please put out this fire. It is not a question as to whether this or that group of human beings will survive this fire. The choice before us is the choice between a civilised human existence and the way of the brute and the beast.

Mr Jinnah, in a brief speech congratulated Dr Zakir Hussain and his colleagues on their achievement.

Mr C Rajagopalachari, Member for Education, Interim Government, announced that the Government of India as a token of their appreciation of the Jamia's work has sanctioned a sum of four and a half lakhs of rupees on the occasion of the Jubilee and another grant of two and a half lakhs towards the building fund of the Jamia.

SARGENT REPORT ON EDUCATION

A statement on the action taken or proposed to be taken on the principal recommendations of the Sargent Report on post-war educational development in India was made in the Central Assembly on November 4 by Mr C Rajagopalachari, Member for Education in reply to a question by Mr Madandhari Singh.

Mr C Rajagopalachari said that the Central Government's five-year plan of educational expansion was complementary to the plans already prepared by the Provinces and that the Provincial Government had been asked forthwith to launch the schemes which were of an urgent character (such as higher technical education, training of teachers etc.) and which had been sanctioned by the Central Government. The entire programme proposed for the development of education in India both by the Central and Provincial Governments involved, he said, a total expenditure of about Rs 125 crores.

SEPARATION OF FUNCTIONS

The report of the Committee appointed by the Government of Madras to examine the question of the separation of the Judiciary and the Executive has been published

The Committee have recommended that the office of the District Magistrate should be separated from that of Collector and that the two offices should be held by two different persons independent of each other

Mr T R Venkatarama Sastri, while fully concurring with the recommendations has added a separate note. It is well to recognise ' Mr Sastri states,

that while a separation of the Judiciary from the Executive is involved in our scheme the real object is the independent functioning of the Judiciary freed of all suspicion of executive influence or control direct or indirect

Referring to those who opposed the reform in this country seeking to derive support for their case in the increasing tendency of English legislation to throw judicial or quasi-judicial work on the executive, sometimes even freed from any judicial examination of the validity of the orders passed by them Mr Sastri says that that is an irrelevant discussion for their purpose

We are not concerned with the performance of judicial duties by the executive but with the performance of judicial duties left in the hands of the Judiciary without being subjected to executive interference or control

There is really no just ground for any difference of opinion ' Mr Sastri continues on this question of judicial freedom from executive control and refers to the recognition of the principle by generations of eminent statesmen administrators and judges

MARRIAGES UNDER HINDU LAW

The Council of State on November 19, passed Dr G V Deshmukh's Bill to remove certain disabilities and doubts under Hindu Law in respect of marriages between Hindus Mrs Radhabai Subbaroyan, who moved the Bill, said it was a permissive legislation to get over the prohibition of marriages between persons of the same 'gotra' or 'pravar' or between persons belonging to the different sub castes of the same caste Marriage, she said, was an important factor in human life and any disabilities that attended on marriages should be removed The Hindu Law prohibiting 'sagotra marriages was not suitable to modern conditions

Mr G S Motilal supported the Bill He urged that codification of the Hindu Law should be expedited by the Government

Explaining Government's point of view, Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar, Leader of the House said that this was a matter which exclusively related to a particular community and on such matters there might be some difference of opinion between liberal opinion and the orthodox view point It was not for the Government to take sides and that was why no member of the Government participated in the debate

LAWYERS SCHEDULED FEES

To revise the rules governing the scale of scheduled fees of legal practitioners in mofussil courts and on the appellate side, the Madras High Court has constituted a committee, consisting of Mr Justice Patanjali Sastri (Chairman) Mr Justice Horwill and Mr P Govinda Menon Prosecutor)

Insurance

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT

The Bill authorising a comprehensive scheme of social insurance in England received the Royal assent on August 1st, and although the main part of the scheme embracing persons not at present insured will not come into operation for a year or more the following information based on the Minister's recent broadcast statement and the Government White Paper will be useful to our readers also

In implementation of their undertaking, the Labour Government have arranged for certain changes which have commenced in October. These changes affect existing pensioners, both contributory and non contributory and persons at present insured, either as compulsory or as voluntary contributors

Where applicable, increased pensions became payable from the first week in October last. Existing pensioners will not need to apply for the increases. Either the present pension order book will be exchanged for a new book at the Post Office the week before the new rates become payable, or in the case of non contributory pensioners, whose books will not then be due for renewal the new books will be sent through the post

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF BHARAT INSURANCE CO

The Golden Jubilee of the Bharat Insurance Company was celebrated amidst scenes of enthusiasm last month at the Company's premises Madras. Mr K Bashyam, Minister for Lan, presided

Welcoming the gathering, Mr P K Aiyar, Branch Manager, referred in brief to the history of the Company since it was founded in 1896 by the late Lala Harkeshen Lal and to the foresight and business talents of Seth Ram Krishna Dalmia who took over the management of the Company in 1936. After dwelling at length on the work of the Madras branch, Mr Aiyar expressed the hope that with the setting up of popular Governments both at the Centre and in the provinces insurance companies would play an increasingly important role in the economic and industrial advancement of the country. Messages received on the occasion were then read out.

Dr B V Narayanaswami Naidu emphasised the need for the State to start insurance schemes to cover various fields of activity and added that the premiums realised by the insurance companies in the province should be used by this province alone for financing State insurance schemes.

Mr K Bashyam opined that the benefits of insurance should be brought home to the masses. Teachers and civil servants, in his view, should be compulsorily insured.

THE NEW GUARDIAN OF INDIA INSURANCE CO

The report of the Directors of the New Guardian of India Life Insurance Co, Ltd, Madras for the year ended December 31, 1945, shows that 2,221 proposals assuring a sum of Rs 45,53,955 resulted in policies during the year of which Rs 47,000 was re-insured. The premium income during the year amounted to Rs 6,63,924-13-0. On the basis of the actuarial valuation for the years 1944 and 1945, the Directors proposed to pay an interim bonus of Rs 5 per 1,000 for each year's premium due or paid after December 31, 1945, in respect of profit policies which become claims by death or maturity till the next valuation.

INDIA AND WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE

The conviction that the Indian delegation to the Preparatory Trade Commission of the United Nations Organisation in London has established the main point with which it came to the Commission, was expressed by Mr R K Nehru, leader of the Indian Delegation

'There is a definite recognition of the fact that industrialisation and general economic development of countries which are backward should be one of the main objects of the new international organisation. Even more important than this is the fact that it is now beginning to be accepted that in order to achieve this object, undeveloped countries must have some freedom to apply every method of trade regulation including tariffs, subsidies and quantitative control subjected to such conditions as may be mutually agreed upon'

The delegation's belief is that there can be no real and substantial economic progress for the world as a whole unless, in Mr R. K. Nehru's words, "there is a very considerable development of the resources of the less developed countries and a very considerable rise in the standard of life and purchasing power of their people"

Mr Nehru said 'I think on the whole, from the point of view of the less developed countries such as India, China and some of the South American states for example the work of the Conference is proceeding very satisfactorily now'

Mr Nehru added that so far as the detailed work of the Conference was concerned, he could obviously say nothing because the meetings are mostly in private

U S LOAN TO INDIA

The immediate grant of a 1,000,000,000 dollar loan to India by the United States was urged by Dr Lanka Sundaram in an interview with *Reuter* in New York. "Such a loan would automatically solve a series of problems facing Britain and the United States severally and jointly", he said

Dr Sundaram, who is adviser to the Indian delegation at the General Assembly, emphasised that his views were personal and should not be associated with the Indian delegation

Speaking of India's sterling credits, he said that Britain owed India 3 000 000 000 dollars and India insisted that these credits should be paid without undue delay. "India wants hard currency which is not possible for her to obtain until these sterling credits are cleared. India wants to buy capital goods in the United States in addition to buying in other countries", he declared

Dr Sundaram added "The freezing of sterling credits by Britain would further exacerbate the Indo British relationship and throw a halter around India in the sphere of her industrialisation and development

United States to day is the largest single exporter to India having outstripped the United Kingdom even in the face of Imperial Preference'

TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA

Mr Richard Grew, formerly Canadian Trade Commissioner in Norway, has been appointed Canadian Trade Commissioner in India, it was announced. He will leave Canada early next year for Bombay. He will also be the representative to Burma and Ceylon

Women's Page

MISS MURIEL LESTER'S REPORT

The following excerpts are taken from the report about the situation in the interior of Noakhali prepared by Miss Muriel Lester, Gandhi's London hostess, which was released for publication through the United Press of India on the eve of her departure for China.

I write from a relief centre in an East Bengal village. It is a private house that has given food, shelter and a sense of security to thousands during the last few weeks. Each of these refugees has a sorry experience to relate. But the worst of all was the plight of the women. Several of them had to watch their husbands being murdered and then be forcibly converted and married to one of those responsible for their death.

These women had a dead look. It was not despair,—nothing so active as that. It was utter blankness. They gazed straight in front of them with no expression of consciousness, no emotion at all. Several had been wounded. I saw them in the excellent little hospital which had been set up a mile away. They had struggled to hold the men away. But it was in vain.

Relief workers and officials visiting villages to rescue women who had been taken as brides find it hard to get them out. They have been warned that their whole family will be killed if they do not assure the officials that they prefer their new homes to the old ones.

After analysing the causes of the troubles in these areas Miss Lester says:

Perhaps the only thing that can be quite positively asserted about this sort of arson and violence is that it was not a spontaneous uprising of the villagers. However many goondas may live in Bengal they are incapable of organising this campaign on their own initiative. Houses have been sprayed with petrol and burnt. Who supplied this rationed fuel? Who imported stirrup pumps into this rural area? Who supplied the weapons?

The report then proceeds:

I have been just interrupted while writing this report by three women entering my room standing before me in silence and then breaking down. I hear they came in half an hour ago from a village four miles away with their husbands and children. They live in Calcutta but had come to their family home during the hol jaya. They found widespread terror. The whole village was relieved when the military visited this place. This sign and symbol of authority reassured them all. But this family at any rate rejoiced too soon. Last night when the soldiers had gone the mob arrived and looted everything they possessed. They are now staying here with only the clothes they are wearing.

WOMEN CONSTABLES

The Bihar Government are going to issue an Ordinance shortly to provide for the appointment of officers to undertake the harvesting of the standing crops of people who have left their villages due to disturbances, it is learnt. Such harvested crops would be stocked locally and if the refugees do not return to their homes within a reasonable time, their produce would be sold and the proceeds remitted to them wherever they are staying at present.

As complaints of abductions of women during the disturbances have been made, Government propose to appoint women constables to avoid unnecessary harassment for carrying out searches wherever there is cause for suspicion. A number of respectable ladies are reported to have already offered their service for this work.

WOMEN AND DEFENCE SERVICES

In reply to Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal, who had asked whether the Government had considered the question of utilising the training and experience of Indian women who were in the Indian National Army for military training of Indian girls, Sardar Patel said: "It is not at present the intention of the Government to have women in the services? (Loud laughter)"

BILL TO AMEND HINDU WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT

The Government of Madras have decided to introduce in the January session of the Madras Legislative Assembly, a Bill to amend the Hindu Women's Property Act so as to bring within its scope agricultural lands in the Province.

Literary

OWNERSHIP OF THE BRITISH PRESS

The House of Commons on October 29 decided by 270 votes to 157 to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the finance, control, management and ownership of the British Press

Mr Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council, said after listening to the debate that he thought the Labour back-benchers who had called for a Royal Commission had made out their case

The appointment of the Commission however, did not commit the Government to action of any sort thereafter

The freedom of the press, he said would not be hurt, adding amid loud cheers and Opposition laughter, that that was the last thing this Government would do

Mr. Morrison said that he did not like the conversion of individual newspapers into great chains or the practice whereby provincial papers had their policy and editorials directed from London instead of being a product of local thought

CONGRESS URDU DAILY FOR PESHAWAR

It is learnt that the Central Government has accorded sanction to an Urdu daily, *Abul Kalim*, to be started at Peshawar. The paper, which is believed to be the official organ of the Congress Party in NWFP, is sponsored by Khan Mohd Yunus Khan Private Secretary to Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan

TAMIL SCIENTIFIC TERMS COMMITTEE

Two members have been coopted to the Tamil section of the Technical and Scientific Terms Committee set up for finding vernacular equivalents for scientific and technical terms in the English language. The new members now announced are Mr R P Sethu Pillai, Reader in Tamil, Madras University, and Mr T S Chokkalingam, Editor of the "Dinakar"

Dr T S Tirumurti is Chairman of the Committee

Personal

SIR SIVASWAMI AIYAR'S BEQUESTS

The late Sir P S Sivaswami Aiyar has bequeathed about 80 per cent of his properties to public institutions, the National Girls' High School, Mylapore, heading the list, receiving an endowment of Rs 3 lakhs. This was announced in his will, read on Nov 17 at the conclusion of the funeral obsequies

Mr P N Ramaswami, District and Sessions Judge, Nellore, nephew of late Sir P S Sivaswami Aiyar and one of the executors, read the will. Representatives of the various beneficiary institutions were present on the occasion

The other institutions which benefited by the will are The Madras Sanskrit College (Rs 10 000 and a good collection of Sanskrit books), the Sarada Vidyalaya Thyagarayanagar (Rs 5 000) and the Kalyani Hospital, Mylapore, (Rs 5 000)

A sum of Rs 5,000 has also been left for minor charities in late Sivaswami Aiyar's village

The Madras Law College Library has received the valuable collection of Law books and the Ranade Library, Mylapore, Government Blue Books and other official publications collected in the course of his legal and high official career. His valuable library of general books, has been bequeathed to the Vivekananda College, Mylapore. His collection of pictures and works of art will be exhibited at the National Girls' High School, Mylapore. Late Sir Sivaswami Aiyar has made appropriate bequests to everyone of his deserving relations and dependents

SIR MANECKJEE DADABHOY

In the Council of State on November 20, Sir Maneckjee Dadabhoi took farewell of the House sitting as President for the last time. He has been occupying the Chair for the last fourteen years and has been a member of the Indian Legislature for the last thirty eight years without interruption. He was a contemporary of the late Mr Srinivasa Sastri, Sir Sivaswami Aiyar, G K Gokhale, Sir Surendranath Banerjee, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Sir Dinshaw Wacha.

MEDICAL INSTITUTE COMMITTEE

The Health Survey and Development Committee recommended that the Central Government should set up an All India Medical Institute which would provide teaching and research facilities of the highest order, says a Press Note. The Government of India have accepted in principle this recommendation and it is proposed to set up without delay a committee of leading medical educationists to advise Government on the steps to be taken to establish the Institute and also on its location.

Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Vice Chancellor of the Madras University has agreed to act as the Chairman of the Committee. The members of the committee are Dr B. C. Roy, Dr Jivraj Mehta, Dr M. A. Hameed, Col P. B. Bharucha and Lt Col V. R. Mirajkar.

ANTI BACTERIAL EXTRACT FROM GARLIC

A penicillin like drug called allicin has been developed from garlic, much used in native therapy. The drug has been extracted by a simple process and is being investigated in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, under a scheme of research on plant antibiotics, financed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. It possesses anti bacterial activity against gram positive, gram negative and acid fast bacilli, while neither sulphaguanidine nor penicillin is anti bacterial to all the three types or organisms. In addition, allicin has anti fungal properties. It is stable in the presence of blood and gastric juice but is inactivated by artificial pancreatic juice.

MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS FOR RURAL UPLIFT

The Government of Madras propose to provide each of the firkas selected in the province for intensive rural development with a mobile medical unit. They have sanctioned in the first instance twelve medical units for twelve firkas at a total cost of Rs 2 lakhs recurring, and Rs 1,15,000 non recurring.

NUTRITIONAL POWERS OF POTATO

The potato has unsuspected nutritional powers. The *British Medical Journal* listed them, and cleared up a long standing mystery.

In 1912 eminent biochemist Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins demonstrated that by making small additions of milk to their diet rats could be made to grow at astonishing pace. But when other researchers tried the experiment nothing much happened.

Not until last year was the cause of the difference traced to the simple fact that whereas Hopkins had fed his rats on a basic diet of potato starch, the others had used polished rice starch or sugar.

The potato starch, it was discovered, passed undigested into the rats' guts, where it was turned into acid through fermentation by the germs living on it. Thus the rodents manufactured their own vitamin B.

FLOW OF BLOOD IN BRAIN

When you are resting, blood flows through your brain at the rate of about 10,000 drops per minute, report researchers of the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

Surprisingly, if you breathe deeply and rapidly, as the flyers do who are suffering from lack of oxygen, the blood flow will invariably be slowed down. If you breathe a high concentration of carbon dioxide on the other hand, the flow will be speeded up.

PERACETIN AS IMMUNIZING AGENT AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

A nicotine derivative is being used at the Moscow Children's Hospitals as an immunizing agent against diphtheria according to the *Soviet Science News*.

The new preparation is known as *peracetin*. It is said that no after effects, as those resulting from diphtheria serum have caused by the use *Peracetin*.

BRANCH BANKING

The Central Assembly passed without a division the Finance Member, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan's Bill to restrict the opening and removal of branches by banking companies.

During the debate on the Finance Member's motion for consideration of the Bill, Mr Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal, criticised the attitude of the Reserve Bank which he said, had fattened on the flesh of every other banking concern in India and had done nothing in return.

Mr K G Ambegaonkar, Finance Secretary, stressing the urgency of the Bill, said that in the first quarter of 1946, new branches opened by scheduled banks alone were 79. In the period from April to June 1946 the figure was 73 and from July to September 140. The scheduled banks formed only a very small proportion of the total number of banks in the country. There were about 93 scheduled banks and about 500 non scheduled banks and there were sufficient grounds for believing that the branches operated by non scheduled banks were expanding at a very fast rate.

Mr Ambegaonkar quoted a series of cases from a list of 77 banks with facts and figures collected after investigation. In one glaring instance, a bank with a paid up capital of Rs 24,000 had 34 branches and had declared a dividend of five per cent in spite of the fact that its capitalised expenditure was more than one third of its paid up capital. The Government have now received complaints from depositors over non payment of deposits.

WORLD BANK

The International Bank has announced that six countries had applied for or signified their intentions of applying for loans.

Denmark has asked for \$50,000,000, Chile for \$40,000,000, Czechoslovakia for \$350,000,000, France for \$500,000,000, Poland for \$600,000,000 and Luxembourg, an undetermined amount, the Bank said.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

In a written reply to Mr. Sri Prakasa, Sir Harold Shoober said that 14 major accidents, in which passenger carrying trains were involved, occurred on all the Indian railways during the period from April 1, 1946, to the beginning of October 1946.

In a written reply to another question Mr Asaf Ali, the Railway Member, stated that on the B A Railway in the Calcutta area the passenger, and goods train services had been seriously affected as a result of the communal disturbances on and from August 16 last. On the Bengal Nagpur Railway the services between Kharagpur and Howrah suffered detentions.

Among the railway staff killed were 7, missing 17 and the belongings of 939 persons were either looted or destroyed.

Mr Asaf Ali said that the casualties within railway premises were 5 killed and 6 injured.

ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAYS

Electrification of about 1,500 of railway miles as a part of the long-term post war development scheme is being examined by the Government of India. The scheme covers the Bombay Ahmedabad sections, Howrah Moghulsara sections via the grand chord, suburban services of the East Indian, Bengal Assam and Bengal Nagpur railways around Calcutta.

The proposed electrification of 1,500 miles, it is stated, would result in an annual saving of about 600,000 tons of coal of which 40 per cent would be high grade.

PROTECTION OF RAILWAY PROPERTY

"Government are actively considering the provision of special armed force for the protection of Railway property, staff and the travelling public and are also examining the question of enhancing the safety of Railways." This was revealed in the Central Assembly by the Minister for Railways, Mr Asaf Ali, in reply to a short notice question by Dr Ziauddin Ahmed.

DIKSHITAR DAY IN CALCUTTA

It is pleasing to learn that Carnatic Music is coming into vogue in such far away centres as Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta. No doubt it is mainly due to the interest and enthusiasm evinced by South Indians resident in those parts. We often hear distinguished South Indian musicians invited to these centres to give entertainments, and the observance of Dikshitar day in Calcutta marks a definite and welcome step in advance.

A correspondent writes to us that the 111th Anniversary of Nathajyoti Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar, the great music composer of South India was celebrated with great eclat by the Sri Guru Guha Gana Vidyalaya of Calcutta for five days from 23rd October to the 27th October both days inclusive at the National High School, Calcutta.

Sri Guru Guha Gana Vidyalaya was founded in Calcutta some years ago by Vineeka Vidwan A. Ananathakrishna Bhagavathar, who is an ardent devotee of the late Nathajyoti Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar. The celebrations were well attended by the South Indian music lovers of Calcutta. The songs sung by the Vidyarthis (adults ladies and girls) were very much appreciated and showed the thoroughness with which the Bhagavathar has imparted to his pupils the songs composed by Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar, Sri Thyagaraja and Sri Sama Sastrigal.

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS

A modern museum which will have a most representative collection of Indian paintings, sculpture and other fine arts will be built in Benares at a cost of Rs 5 00 000. A list of donation for the project includes one for Rs 10 000 from Mr G D Birla.

A deputation led by Mr Manthali Sharan Gupta, the well known Hindi poet will tour the country soon to raise the necessary funds, which will be controlled by the Bharat Kala Bhawan Benares, an institution which preserves Indian antiquities.

INTERNATIONAL SPORT

Some of Britain's leading "brains" do not think much of international sport judging by answers given by members of the B B C Brains Trust in one of their weekly sessions. For example, to the question, 'Does international sport develop or improve friendship between nations taking part?', the well known Conservative M P, Mr Robert Boothby said, "I think on the whole that international games have a very bad effect generally upon international relations". He then went on to quote the controversy between England and Australia over bodyline bowling.

The economist, Geoffrey Crowther, agreed. He said that people who hold it is good for friendship are usually the people who actually take part and that they do come back feeling glowing with friendship for each other but added, "As far as the spectators are concerned, who are considerably more numerous, I think it is almost disastrous to have international sporting occasions".

Sir R D DENNISTON

We regret to report the death of Sir Robert Denniston, popular sportsman and retired Managing Director of Best & Co, last month at Hythe in Kent after a brief illness.

The sporting public of Madras has lost one of its most conspicuous figures who has held the field for over three decades as the most likeable European sportsman taking part in games in the presidency. Alike in Hockey and Cricket both on and off the field 'Denny' was a very popular personality.

LONDONER'S MARATHON WALK

Bert Couzens 47 year old Londoner who completed 3 000 miles' walk in 48 days to set up a new world endurance record, now plans to walk right across the United States. During his marathon walk, which took place in Romford Stadium, he rested for only 26 hours, wore out six pairs of shoes and consumed 100 gallons of tea. The previous endurance record was established 137 years ago by Captain J Barclays, another Briton.

FUEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The foundation stone of the Fuel Research Institute, second in the chain of India's five national laboratories, was laid on November 16 by Mr C H Bhabha, Member for Works, Mines and Power, in the Interim Government, at Digwadih, in Bihar's coal fields area

The annual recurring expenditure of the Institute for the first five years will be about Rs 2½ lakhs

The Buildings and the laboratory equipment will cost Rs 14 lakhs

Planned by the Council of Institute the Institute will cover all aspects of research on every type of fuel such as coal, petroleum alcohol, wood, charcoal and gaseous fuels. For the present, however, its activities will be largely in respect of solid fuels and coal in particular

The Institute, along with the other four National Laboratories, is expected to advance India's scientific and industrial progress. The first of these laboratories the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, is under construction in Calcutta. The foundation of the Metallurgical Laboratory was at Jamshedpur

NATIONALISATION OF MINERALS

Commenting on the proposal of the Government of India to nationalise mineral resources, Sir C V Raman, in an interview with the Associated Press of America, said, "The complete nationalisation in the sense of the State doing the whole work does not seem to me the right course to proceed in all cases

"It might perhaps be justifiable," said Sir C. V. Raman "with regard to metals of exceptional importance or economic of exceptional importance or economic value like coal, mineral oil, gold and possible sources of atomic energy. Excluding such cases there should be a large field which can, with advantage, be left open to private initiative, subject to safeguards"

"Before nationalising the minerals" he added, "the State should take the initiative in exploring mineral wealth

MR B G KHER'S ADVICE TO FILM PRODUCERS

Inaugurating the All India Film Conference at Bombay on November 14, Mr B G Kher, Premier of Bombay, appealed to film producers to interest themselves in the production of pictures of instructional value conveying nationalist ideas

The Conference was presided over by Rai Bahadur Chuni Lal, President of the Motion Picture Society of India. Delegates from Mysore, Madras, Delhi, Bengal and Punjab attended the two day session of the Conference. This is the first representative Conference of the film industry to meet since 1939

Mr Kher said producers must realise the importance of the film industry in the national life of the country and pointed out that its two fold function was instruction and amusement. Referring to educational films as "the supreme apostle of education," the Prime Minister said that such films should be put into general use.

Pleading for protection to the indigenous industry, Rai Bahadur Chuni Lal, said, "It will be ruinous to this national industry and to our national economy if, at this critical juncture the huge resources of foreign film interests are allowed to dominate this industry"

OMAR KHAYYAM

Bombay Marani Pictures have already completed their 'Omar Khayyam' under the direction of Mohan Sinha Saigal and Suraiya lead the cast. The same concern's '1857' or the story of the historic Indian Mutiny, featuring Suraiya Wasti and Surendra is being given the final touches

EXHIBITION OF FILMS OF GOVT ACTIVITIES

The Government of Madras have suggested to the Government of India the desirability of inserting an amendment in the Cinematograph Act to make a provision for compelling owners of cinemas to exhibit films of 1200 to 1500 feet in length relating to or connected with development schemes of the Government

SALE OF CONTROLLED MOTOR CARS

The Government of Madras have published certain amendments to the Civil Motor Cars Control Order

According to the amendments 'no person in possession of a controlled motor car (used or unused cars) not being a distributor dealer or sub dealer shall sell, offer to sell or otherwise dispose of, any controlled motor car save in accordance with a transfer order issued by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller' They also prohibit persons from purchasing or otherwise acquiring a controlled motor car without a transfer order issued in their favour by the concerned authorities

The period of validity of a sale order will be 14 days from the date of its issue by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller who has been empowered to renew it for a further period of 7 days

MINIATURE MOTOR CARS

French makers have stolen the motor show in the Grand Palais at Paris with a fleet of miniature cars. They are practical little two and four seaters of infinitesimal running costs

The 'Panhard,' a beautifully balanced saloon for four, has four doors and the fittings of an orthodox family saloon. Its horse power rating is $4\frac{1}{2}$. The 'MAG' two seater has a $2\frac{1}{2}$ h.p. rear engine, but looks quite conventional. Smallest of all is the 2 h.p. 'Rovin'—a two seater run about $8\frac{1}{2}$ ft long $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft wide and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft high. Another dwarf car is the 'Shoda Minor,' from Prague, a rear engined saloon of 7 h.p.

IMPORT OF BRITISH CARS

India took 836 of the 6592 British cars exported during August. More than 53 per cent of car exports went to Empire countries including India. The total value of car exports was over £1,600,000. In the first eight months of this year, the production of cars and commercial vehicles was 210,224.

NATIONALISATION OF AVIATION

Declaring that the Interim Government had not yet had time to frame its policy on such matters as nationalisation of civil aviation, Sardar Patel, Home Member, in a forceful intervention in the debate on Sardar Mangal Singh's resolution in the Central Assembly on November 8 asked the House not to hustle the Government into hazardous undertakings.

The differing views expressed by Congress and Muslim League speakers over Sardar Mangal Singh's resolution recommending nationalisation of civil aviation were described in the lobbies as more apparent than real. They arose, it was pointed out, not on the merits of the policy of nationalisation, but on the effect on the Interim Government of a resolution which the House passed and on which the Government themselves might not have reached final decisions.

SAFETY ON INDIAN AIR LINES

Regulations governing the use of Dakota aircraft on India's civil air lines are considerably more stringent than those acceptable in other countries, said Air Vice Marshal Sir Edward Rice, Deputy Director General, Aircraft Division of the Civil Aviation Office.

Sir Edward made this comment in reply to a question whether, in view of recent crashes of Dakotas in other parts of the world, any special precautions were being taken in India, where this type of plane is used almost exclusively by the air lines.

AIR AGREEMENT WITH U.S.A.

India signed last month a bilateral air transport agreement with the U.S.A. Pandit Nehru as Minister of External Affairs and leader of the Interim Government and Mr. Abdul Rab Nishtar, Communications Minister, signed on India's behalf. The American signatories were Mr. George Merrell, Charge d'Affaires of the American Embassy in Delhi, and Mr. George A. Brownell, Personal Representative of the American President.

A C C's NEW CEMENT WORKS

To their vast network of works operating in the various parts of India, the Associated Cement Companies Ltd have just added one more at Jhinkpani, near Chaibasa, which was inaugurated by H E Sir Hugh Dow, the Governor of Bihar, on Tuesday the 5th November

A great part of the machinery and equipment for this Factory said Sir H P Mody, the Chairman of the A C C was manufactured at some of our other works and but for that and the set up of our organization it would have been impossible for the Factory to be in production to day When the A C C came into being in 1936 and for sometime thereafter, every thing in the way of plant and equipment had to be imported from abroad In the course of the last few years, however, we have been able to establish at our various workshops up to date facilities for the design and manufacture of the type of cement machinery which our experiences have shown to be most suitable and efficient for the conditions existing in this country, and we have raised a body of skilled workers for the purpose

The Factory has been designed for quick extensions and it is geographically well suited to supply the Bihar, Bengal and Calcutta markets

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The Council of State on Nov 7 adopted without a division, a resolution moved by Sir N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar asking the Government of India to undertake Central legislation for the development of the cotton mill industry on nationally planned lines

CLOTH RATION IN MADRAS

A uniform mill cloth ration for the entire province including the city, of five yards per adult and two yards per child per annum has been fixed by the Government of Madras it is announced The new cloth scheme, the first to be introduced in the province, will come into effect in the city from Dec. 1, 1946

PROBLEM OF RURAL AREAS

There was no use giving people better houses, better sanitation and other facilities for better living, unless they were first assured of sufficient food, said Mr A. McInnes, Manager, the National Bank of India, addressing the Madras Rotary Club on "Rural Reconstruction"

For the average villager to day life was one long struggle for a miserable existence Ill fed, undernourished, harassed by malaria, haunted by money lenders, he might well feel desperate, said the speaker To day the average villager, who cultivated his land, was not able to retain sufficient of the product of his labour to maintain himself and his family The landless labourer was worse off

For increasing the productivity of the soil and growing better and more crops, the speaker suggested, the adoption of what was known as bio dynamics in farming Bio dynamics was the term used to describe an agricultural system based on consideration of the physical, chemical and biological aspects of soil fertility, plant growth, animal growth and human nutrition The bio dynamic method quite definitely was opposed to chemical fertilisers as long term elements and aimed at restoring fertility to a degree when chemical fertilisers would be unnecessary additions

MINIATURE TRACTOR FOR SMALL FARMERS

A new miniature tractor specially designed for the use of market gardeners and small holders is announced in Britain

An indication of its usefulness is given by the fact that it can work between any crops whose rows have been planted 12 inches or more apart

The tractor, called the Atom, can perform almost all the duties of a standard machine Operation is economical; the fuel consumption averages about 2½ pints an hour It is fitted with a 3 hp engine The approximate speeds are one mile per hour in the bottom gear and two to three in the top gear The rear wheels are adjustable sideways

BILL FOR SETTLEMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

For the first time during the course of the present session of the Central Assembly, the House divided over the Labour Member Mr Jagjivan Ram's motion on November 14 to refer to a Select Committee his Bill for investigation and settlement of industrial disputes. The five members Mr N M Joshi, Miss Maniben Kara, Mr S Guruswami, Mr Aftab Ali and Dr Solanki, all nominated members representing Indian labour interests, voted against the motion, the European group remaining neutral. Fifty members of the Treasury Benches, the Congress and the Muslim League parties, voted for the motion.

Mr Aftab Ali, leader of the Indian Seamen's Federation, supported Mr N M Joshi's amendment for circulation of the Bill and declared that the State should not be given the right to arbitrate compulsorily as it cut at the root of labour's democratic right to strike.

The Labour Member's main defence was that the Government had a duty to protect the community in general and to see that it did not suffer owing to fights between capital and labour. In all such fights, the main sufferers were the consumers and users of public utility services, he said. Mr Jagjivan Ram also gave the assurance that the Government would never break or bend labour but instead serve their interests to the utmost.

The House, thereupon, divided and passed the Labour Member's motion referring the Bill to a Select Committee.

AMENITIES FOR MINERS

While speaking at the Indian Colliery Owners' Association meeting at Jharia the Labour Member Mr Jagjivan Ram emphasised that the dissatisfaction among the coal miners would be remedied simply by increasing their wages. In other parts of the world higher wages were paid to the coal miners but still they were not satisfied. It might be said that the work in the coal mines was so tiring that the coal miners could not work for as many hours as an industrial worker.

NOBEL PRIZE AWARDS

The Nobel Prize Committee announces that the Peace prize for 1946 will be divided between two Americans, Miss Emily Green Balch and Mr John R Mott.

Miss Balch, 79 year old economist, was a delegate to the International Congress of Women at The Hague in 1915. Later, she became Honorary President of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Mr Mott, of Orlando, Florida, is President of the World Alliance of the Young Men's Christian Association. He is the author of many books on religious subjects and made several world wide tours in the interests of the world mission of Christianity between 1900 and 1941.

The Nobel Physics Prize for 1946 was awarded to Dr Percy William Bridgman of Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The Nobel Prize for Literature has been awarded to Herr Herman Herse, a German who has lived in Switzerland since 1912.

GANDHI MEMORIAL STUPA AT PORBANDAR

A memorial pillar on which the fundamentals of Mahatma Gandhi's teachings will be engraved will be erected at Porbandar where Mahatma Gandhi was born and spent his childhood. Meanwhile, a trust for Rs 1,50,000 has been created by Seth Nanjibhai Kalidas, a philanthropist of Porbandar, for the maintenance and preservation of the house in which Mahatma Gandhi was born.

REMOVAL OF HARIJANS' DISABILITIES

The Bombay Legislative Council which recommenced its session at Bombay on November 11 unanimously adopted the Bill to provide for the removal of the social disabilities of Harijans in the province, which was passed by the Legislative Assembly at its Poona session October 2.

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN FOR UNESCO, CALCUTTA

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Indian delegate has been elected Chairman of the UNESCO Executive Council.

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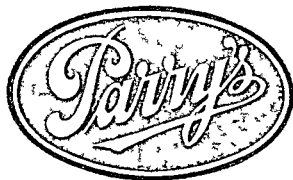
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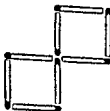
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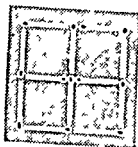
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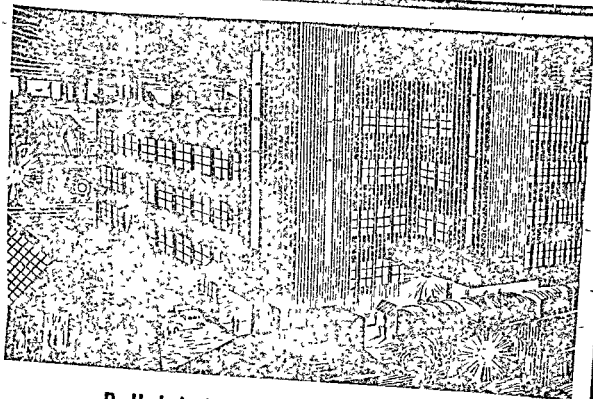
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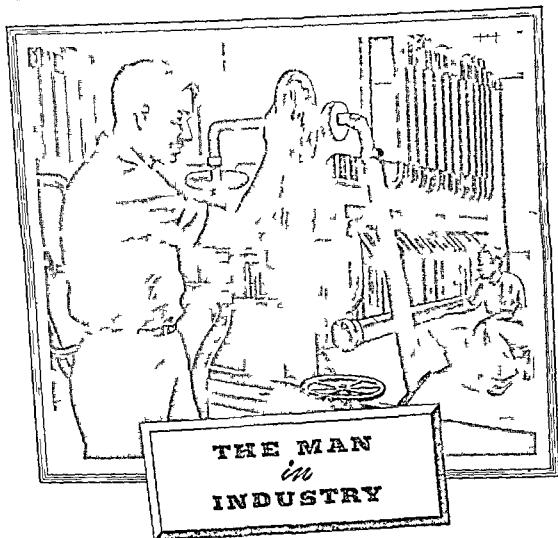
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He is the only Astrologer in India who first predicted the Allies Victory in the present world war on 3rd Sept 1939 within 4 hours the very day of the declaration of war which was duly communicated to and acknowledged by the Secretary of State for India, the Viceroy and the Governor of Bengal and who is also the consulting Astrologer of the Eighteen Ruling Chiefs of India

It is well known that the Astrological predictions of this great scholar, his wonderful methods of redressing the pernicious influence of evil stars, his power to bring success in complicated law suits and also to cure incurable diseases are really uncommon

Many Ruling Chiefs of India, High Court Judges Commissioners of Divisions, Advocate Generals, Nawabs, Rajas, Maharajas etc., and also many reputed personalities of the world (of England, America, Australia, Africa, China, Japan, etc.) have given many unsolicited testimonials of the great Pandit's wonderful powers

A FEW OPINIONS AMONGST THOUSANDS

His Highness The Maharaja of Atbegarh says — "I have been astonished at the superhuman power of Panditji. He is a great Tantrik." Her Highness The Dowager Gth Maharani Sahib of Tripura State says — "I am feeling wonder at the marvellous Tantrik work and excellent efficacy of his Kavachas. He is no doubt a great personage with miraculous power. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherji, Kt., says — "The wonderful power of calculation and talent of Sri Manmatha Chandra is the only possible outcome of a great father to a like son." The Hon'ble Maharaja of Santosh & Ex-President of the Bengal Legislative Council, Sir Manmatha Nath Roy Choudhury Kt., says — "On seeing my son, his prophecy about my future is true to words. He is really a great Astrologer with extraordinary power." The Honourable Justice Mr. B. K. Roy of Patna High Court says — "At a glance on me, he began to disclose my mental thoughts and he predicted marvellously many things. He is really a great personage with super natural power." The Hon'ble Minister, Govt. of Bengal, Raja Prasanna Deb Barikot says — "The wonderful power of calculation and Tantrik activities of Panditji on several occasions have struck me with greatest astonishment. Really he is unique in his line." The Hon'ble Justice Mr. S. M. Das, of Koorjar State High Court, says — "Panditji has bestowed the life of my dead son. I have never seen in my life such a great Tantrik Yogi." Mr. J. A. Lawrence, Osaka, Japan, writes — "I was getting good results from your Kavachas and all my family were passing a different life since I started wearing." Mr. Andre Tempe, 2724, Popular Ave., Chicago, Illinois U. S. America: — "I have purchased from you several Kavachas on two or three different occasions. They all proved satisfactory." Mrs. F. W. Gillespie, Detroit Mich., U. S. America: — "I am wearing your special Dhanada Talisman and so far my luck has been with me a great deal better than in the past." Mr. K. Fuchp ul, Shanghai, China — "Everything you foretold in writing is taking place with surprising exactness." Mr. Isaac Mami Etsa, Govt. Clerk & Interpreter in Deschamps, West Africa — "I had ordered some Talismans from you that had rendered me wonderful service." Mr. B. J. Fernando Proctor, S. C., & Notary Public Colombo, Ceylon: — "I got marvellous effects from your Kavachas. I have had transactions with you almost every year for the last 20 years for about Rupees three thousand." Etc., etc and many others

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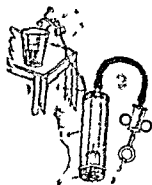
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depressed is the saying which does not hold good as applied to men. The natural feeling after normal mating in a healthy man of any age having a sexual desire must be one of buoyancy cheerfulness relaxation and stimulation. The resultant temporary sense of sleepiness and languidness due to

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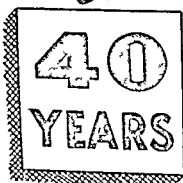
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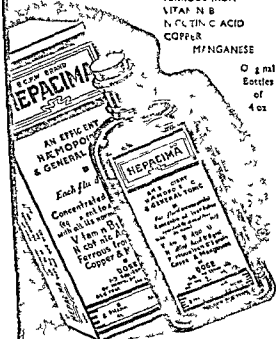
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